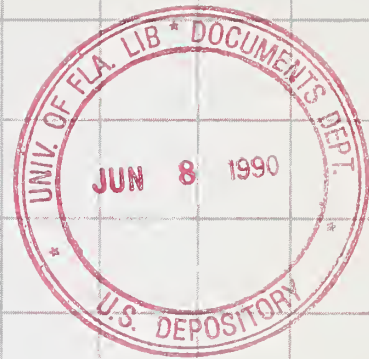


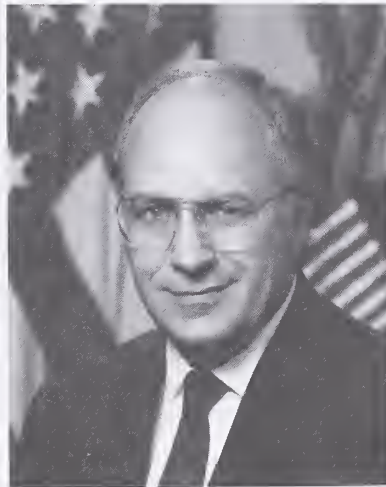
Hispanics in America's Defense





THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

17 NOV 1964



Dear Reader:

This booklet pays tribute to the Hispanic men and women who have served and continue to serve with courage and distinction in America's defense. Although we highlight particular sacrifices and successes of Hispanic military members during wartime, we must not overlook the significant efforts made by Hispanic civilian employees of the Department of Defense (DoD). To show the DoD total force, we have included pictures and information about Hispanic civilians who serve as role models.

The military and civilian contributions of Hispanic Americans reflect a deep commitment to the principles of freedom and democracy which are the strength of the United States. The Hispanic community has given us generals, admirals, philosophers, statesmen, musicians, athletes, and Nobel Prize-winning scientists. Hispanic Americans have contributed gallantly to the defense of our Nation, and thirty-seven have received the highest military decoration our country can bestow--the Medal of Honor. No manner of tribute to our country's heritage could be more appropriate than to acknowledge the importance of Hispanic Americans' contributions to national security. In this booklet we salute their contributions, sacrifices, and bravery.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Daniel C. Cheney is located at the bottom right of the page. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



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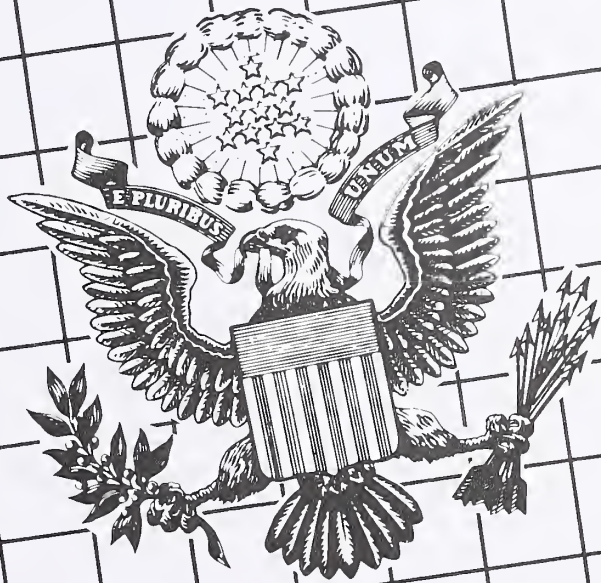
Hispanics in America's Defense

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The Military Heritage of Hispanic Americans in Our Nation's Defense: An Overview



Introduction

Soldiers, sailors, and explorers of Spanish origin were among the first Europeans to set foot in the "New World." By 1980, persons of Spanish origin were the second largest and fastest growing population subgroup in the United States, constituting over 14,600,000 people, or 6.4 percent of the total national population. Yet most history books in this country do not discuss the contributions of this diverse group of people of Spanish, Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Dominican, and Central and South American origin.

The military heritage of Hispanics is a proud part of the European presence in the Americas. Much of the exploration and settlement of North and South America which followed the period of discovery in the late 15th century was conducted by Spanish military personnel—the conquistadors.

This booklet does not attempt to detail the full range of Hispanic exploration or conquest, nor does it attempt to chronicle the full range of Hispanic contributions to the military organizations of the United States. Rather, it presents a brief overview which touches upon significant events in North American history, tracing the military aspects and the role of Hispanic Americans in that history. It emphasizes the military contributions because this is a DoD publication, and military service is an ultimate test of one's belief in and contribution to the protection and building of a nation.

Hispanic Americans have defended our nation with pride and courage. Thirty-seven Hispanic Americans have received the Medal of Honor—America's highest military decoration for valor. This booklet salutes their sacrifices and bravery.

Hispanic Exploration and Conquest of North America (1492–1541)

Some scientists have estimated that perhaps as early as 40,000 years ago people discovered the American continent. For approximately 39,500 years they expanded into the far reaches of both North and South America and built great civilizations. We do not know what they called themselves or how many of them there were. Some we know as the Anasazi (New Mexico), the Maya (Central America), the Inca (Peru), the Toltec (Mexico), and the Aztec (Mexico).

In 1492, the isolation of these people was ended when Christopher Columbus, an Italian sailing under Spanish patronage, entered their world through the Caribbean basin. He called the land "the Indies," and he called the people "Indians" because he thought that he had discovered a westward route to the riches of the East Indies. Columbus returned triumphantly to Spain and the wave of European exploration and search for riches in this "other world" began.

Columbus made three more trips to the area of his discovery and explored portions of modern day Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Bahamas. Although he came to realize that he had not discovered the Indies he had originally sought, he did find enough gold and produce from the mining and agricultural colony which he established at Hispaniola (now known as Santo Domingo) to excite the rest of the Western world.

The only other European nation competing with Spain to find a sea route to the Indies was Portugal. In 1498, Vasco de Gama reached India by rounding the southern tip of Africa and sailing across the Indian Ocean. As a result of the achievements of Columbus and de Gama, the Pope divided the Western Hemisphere between Spain and Portugal. For almost

the next 100 years, Spain enjoyed a virtual monopoly in the exploration, settlement, and development of North and South America.

Juan Ponce de Leon became the first of the Spanish "advancers" (adelantados) of Columbus' discoveries. In 1508 he explored Puerto Rico; Jamaica in 1509; and Cuba in the years following 1511. This Caribbean exploration ended in 1513 when Vasco Nunez de Balboa crossed the Isthmus of Panama and became the first European to see the Pacific Ocean. That same year, de Leon discovered Florida. The Spanish explorers paused to evaluate their new discoveries and to plan a major expansion of their efforts.

Rumors of untold riches held by Indians in the interior of Mexico caused the governor of Cuba to establish a trading post on the coast near the present town of Vera Cruz. Led by Hernando Cortes, the traders found themselves welcomed by many of the inhabitants as a savior from their Aztec rulers. Marching into the interior to the Aztec capital, Cortes defeated the Aztec army in 1521 and became the virtual ruler of the area.

The Spanish were quick to follow up on the advances made and this started a 20-year period of military conquest. Utilizing a three-pronged approach, the conquistadors (conquerors) first moved south, down the western coast of South America under the leadership of Francisco Pizarro. During the next 11 years (1524–1535), his armies conquered the Inca empire and subjugated the land between Panama and the present city of Santiago, Chile.

In the second prong, Panfilo de Narvaez and Cabeza de Vaca sailed north from Cuba to Florida in 1527 but were wrecked off the west coast of Florida. They built replacement ships, but not knowing where they were, sailed directly west to the coast of Texas, wandering among the Indians for 6

years before being rescued by troops from Mexico in 1536.

In 1539, Hernando de Soto followed the same course begun by de Narvaez and de Vaca. He reached Florida, however, and initiated the third prong by exploring the region of Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi, finally reaching the Mississippi River near Memphis. De Soto died near there but his men sailed down the river and eventually returned to Cuba after a 4-year absence. During their wanderings through southern Texas and northern Mexico, Cabeza, de Vaca, and a black slave, Estebanico (also known as Estevan or Stephen) heard stories from the Indians about a region to the north which had several large, wealthy cities. After their rescue, Estevan led an expedition northward, traveling up to present New Mexico, where he was killed by Zuni Indians in 1539. A second expedition under Francisco Vasquez Coronado was authorized to find the "Seven Cities of Cibola" in 1539. Although he marched northward to New Mexico, then east to Kansas, he was unsuccessful.

By 1541, Spain had discovered, explored, and conquered an empire extending from northern New Mexico to the tip of Chile; the largest area since the Roman Empire. Spain then attempted to consolidate these gains and to systematically strip the conquered lands of their wealth.

Colonization and Settlement (1542-1774)

By 1542, Spain had developed a relatively sophisticated system to administer its new lands. During the period of conquest, approximately 300,000 Spaniards had emigrated to the New World. They established

over 200 cities and towns throughout North and South America. During this period of colonization and settlement, Francisco de Ulloa added Baja (lower), California to the Empire and Vazquez de Ayllon attempted to establish colonies in the Carolinas/Virginia area.

Spanish America was divided into two major Viceroyalties, the Viceroyalty of New Spain, which controlled all territory north of the Isthmus of Panama, and the Viceroyalty of Peru, which included all lands to the south. Each was ruled by a Viceroy who exercised the King's powers from a capital city. The Viceroyalty of New Spain was divided into four major subdivisions or audiencias (Nueva Galicia to the north, Mexico, Guatemala, and Santo Domingo).

Audiencias, in turn, were subdivided into cabildo or urban jurisdictions and encomienda or royal grants of native labor and the land they occupied. Nueva Galicia also employed presidios, or small military posts, to guard missionaries and the frontier bordering Indian territory.

The colonial society of New Spain was headed by major office holders who were appointed by the Crown for a fixed period and then returned to Spain. They were assisted by a group of American-born citizens of Spanish descent called Creoles. This numerically larger group controlled the Indian workers on the encomienda and the black slaves imported from Africa to do the agricultural and mining labor. Since the Creoles never went to Spain, their political orientation developed around the colony. They were a racially mixed group, but were not politically dominant.



James de Vargas, Colonial Military Leader

In 1680, Pueblo Indians led by Pope revolted against Spanish domination and drove the Spanish settlers out of New Mexico. De Vargas, an intrepid soldier, used diplomacy in 1692 to end the revolt. Alone and without a helmet, de Vargas met the Indians. He talked the Indians into capitulating by taking advantage of Pope's death and the Indians' dissatisfaction with the tyranny of the Pope. Spanish rule was restored in New Mexico without loss of life on either side. De Vargas then granted total amnesty to the rebellious tribes. He did not hesitate to fight when necessary, however. In 1693, several tribes rebelled again and de Vargas suppressed them, executing 70 of their leaders.

Painting courtesy of Elio Gasperetti

Since the English employed a different colonial system, initially relying upon English laborers rather than Indians or slaves (who were heavily used later), their politically active population grew more rapidly. In addition, the administrative system was less dependent upon the Crown for decision making and many royal office holders remained, rather than returning to England. Eventually, the English colonies expanded to the borders of New Spain and their leaders were clamoring for independence from the English crown; something which the Spanish system of colonial administration prohibited. It did not take the Spanish governors long to realize that by supporting the rebellious English colonists, they could reduce the influence of England in the New World and perhaps even influence, if not confine completely, the growth of the independent colonies to the east of the Appalachians.

American Revolution 1775–1783

Background

The principal European colonial powers in North America (England, France, and Spain) often engaged in wars which impacted upon their colonial possessions. During the Seven Years War (1754–1763), for example, England captured the Spanish-controlled cities of Havana and Manila. The North American phase of this conflict is known as the French and Indian Wars, which were fought mostly in the Midwest and Northeast. When the fighting stopped in 1763 and the combatants negotiated the Treaty of Paris, Spain ceded its colony in Florida to England. In return, England returned Havana and Manila, which it had captured in 1762, to Spain.

The British divided Florida at the Apalachicola River (see map on page 6) and created two colonies; West Florida

with its capital at Pensacola and East Florida with St. Augustine its capital.

From 1763–1775, England attempted to consolidate its new holdings. Spain watched with some concern. Its nearest colony to the British was Louisiana with its capital at New Orleans. Spanish authorities were now concerned about their ability to navigate the Mississippi river in order to reach settlements in the interior and to trade with the Indians. A British presence at the mouth of the river threatened that control. In addition, Spanish trade ships crossed the Gulf of Mexico from Mexico to South America. England was now able to threaten that trade from Pensacola. For Spain to protect its trade routes and its Mexican silver mines, it needed to restore its control of Florida.

American Revolution

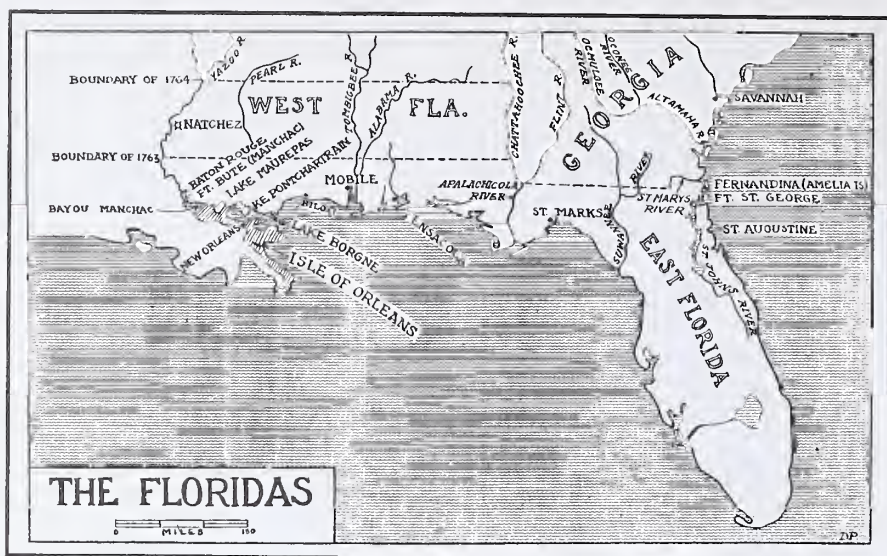
When war broke out between England and its colonists in 1775, Spain closely monitored developments. The English colonists in Florida remained loyal to the king. They had developed a relatively weak form of local government and had not produced the yearning for independence experienced in the North. This was due, in part, to the colonists' realization that despite 12 years of English rule, they were dependent for their survival upon subsidies from the Crown and that the taxes levied upon them and their Northern peers served to subsidize the English presence in Florida. Further, many of the white settlers in the colony held jobs either as colonial officials or as suppliers to the British Army. Thoughts of revolution and of cutting this link with Britain were far from their minds. Finally, as the war progressed, loyalists from other colonies moved to Florida for protection, thereby further strengthening their ties to England.



The New Smyrna Minorcans

Spanish, Greek, and Italian immigrants from Minorca, one of the Balearic Islands in the Mediterranean Sea off the east coast of Spain, founded a settlement in Florida in 1767 which they called New Smyrna. In 1778 they abandoned their settlement and moved to St. Augustine, Florida. During the American Revolution, a number of these immigrants joined the St. Augustine militia to help guard Florida, which was then a British colony, from attack by the Americans.

Drawing by Elio Gasperetti



The British colonies of West and East Florida during the American Revolution



Captain Ferdinand de Leyba

While the American Revolution was raging, a combined force of British troops and Indian allies attacked the Spanish-controlled city of St. Louis in Missouri Territory on May 26, 1780. The Spanish militia garrison of St. Louis was commanded by de Leyba. The British-Indian force was repulsed in one of the few defeats suffered by the British for their allies in 1780. This drawing is not a true portrait of de Leyba, but it is based on uniforms of the period.

Drawing by Elio Gasperetti

Bernardo de Galvez

In 1776, Bernardo de Galvez was appointed colonel of the Spanish regiment in Louisiana. He was 30 years old at the time, but no stranger to New Spain. From 1769–1771, de Galvez had fought the Apache in Texas as a young captain and had learned to respect them and to treat the Indians fairly rather than to oppress them. Now he would have an opportunity to apply his theories to tribes along the Mississippi as he struggled to maintain a Spanish presence against competition from Britain. In 1777, de Galvez was appointed governor of Louisiana province.

From 1775–1777, Spain negotiated with the Continental Congress over possible assistance for the revolutionaries. But no agreement was reached because neither side could decide who would control Florida if the English colonists won their freedom. Despite the lack of a formal agreement, de Galvez supported the American rebels by providing cattle from Spanish herds in Texas and by selling weapons and other supplies to American agents who shipped them up the river of by ocean carrier to Philadelphia.

In 1777, the Continental Congress authorized an agent to travel down the Mississippi to New Orleans with

American dispatches for de Galvez and to harass British outposts along the Mississippi. The agent, James Willing, captured several ships and raided several plantations and military outposts. When he arrived in New Orleans with his booty he had so agitated the British that they had placed several ships in a blockade to prevent Willing's escape into the Gulf of Mexico. Despite the British threat, de Galvez protected the American agent and protested vigorously to Britain about its threatening actions.

By 1778, the war was going badly for the British. General Burgoyne had surrendered his army at Saratoga and General Clinton abandoned Philadelphia. Sensing British weakness, the French declared war against England in February 1778 and urged its ally Spain to do so as well. Spain resisted but eventually recognized the independence of the colonies in February 1779. Wasting no time, de Galvez raised a small militia unit and with his regular Spanish forces moved to clear the British out of southern Mississippi. He captured all the British forts from Lake Pontchartrain to Baton Rouge.

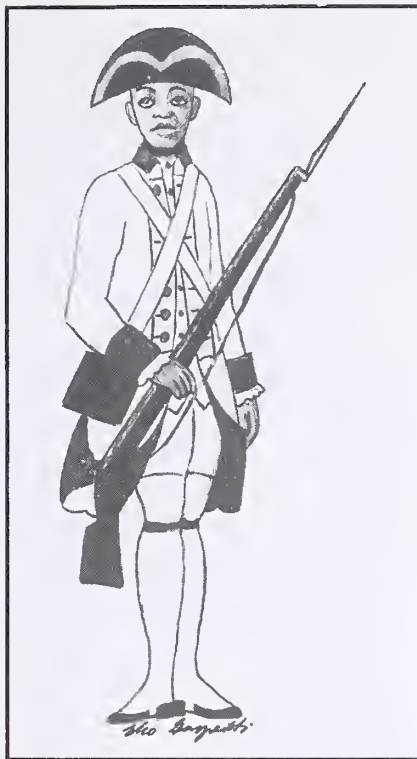
Governor de Galvez then raised another force and attacked Mobile, capturing it in March 1780. Resting in Mobile, de Galvez raised a third force of over 9,000 men, including blacks, Indians, and mestizos, to attack Pensacola. In March 1781, de Galvez captured the British fort on Santa Rosa Island which guarded the entrance to the city and laid siege to the city. Ordering his ships into Pensacola Bay, de Galvez was shocked to see them refuse to enter the harbor. One of the vessels had scraped bottom and refused to proceed. After pleading with and berating the ship's captain, de Galvez took another ship, hoisted his personal colors, and sailed into the harbor alone. Shamed and inspired by his example of personal leadership and bravery, the remaining ships followed.



Dominican Soldier

Blacks from Santo Domingo, the capital city of the Spanish Colony in what is now the Dominican Republic, fought with the Spanish forces under de Galvez during the Gulf Campaigns (1779–1781) of the American Revolution. This uniform is not authentic, but is based on Cuban uniform of a later period.

Drawing by Elio Gasperetti



Cuban Militiaman

Battalions of morenos (blacks) and pardos (mulattos) from the Cuban Habana Regiment were part of the forces which served under de Galvez during the Gulf Campaigns of the American Revolution.

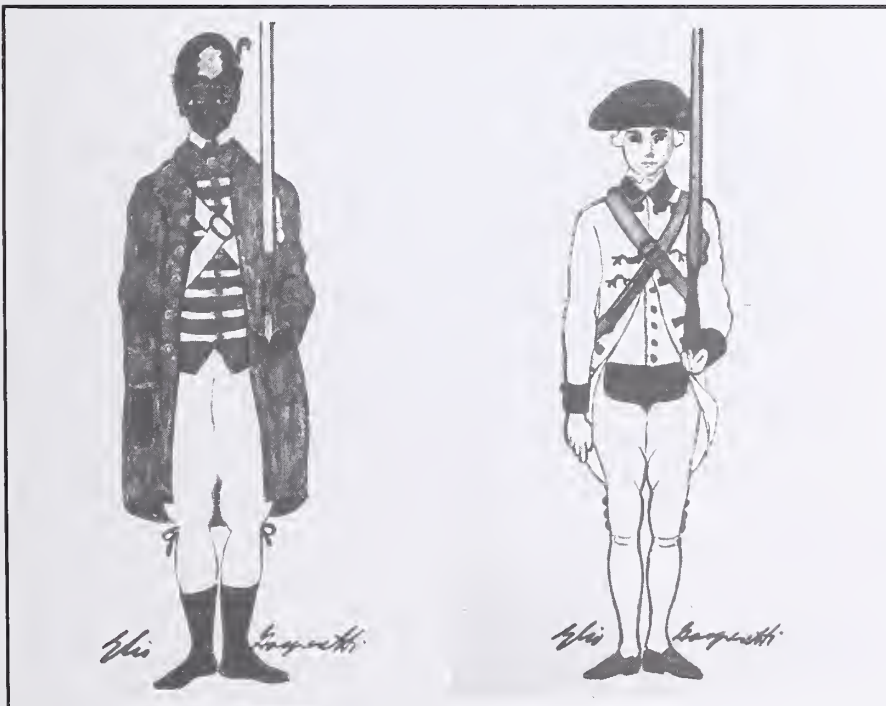
Drawing by Elio Gasperetti



Officer, Louisiana Regiment of Infantry

This regiment was founded by the Spanish during their occupation of Louisiana (1763–1800). At first, it contained both Spanish- and French-speaking personnel. It was part of the force under Bernardo de Galvez during his victorious Mississippi and Gulf Campaigns against the British. After Spain returned Louisiana to France, the unit was moved to the Spanish colonies of West and East Florida. Its name was unchanged, but it no longer had French-speaking members. The unit was disbanded in 1819 when the United States purchased Florida from Spain.

Drawing by Elio Gasperetti



Puerto Rican Sergeants of Artillery (Left)

Puerto Ricans constituted one of the many diverse units which fought along side Spanish forces under de Galvez during the Gulf Campaigns of the American Revolution.

Drawings by Elio Gasperetti

When his army landed in the city, the English defenders retreated to two forts. Spanish reinforcements from Mobile, New Orleans, and Havana arrived and de Galvez assaulted the British forts in May. During the assault, a sudden explosion evaporated a British powder magazine in one of the forts. Quickly charging, de Galvez captured the fort and assaulted the remaining stronghold; its defenders surrendered.

In appreciation for de Galvez's actions, Charles III, King of Spain, made him a count and he was allowed to change his family coat of arms to show a ship entering Pensacola Bay with the motto "yo solo" (I alone). The name of Pensacola Bay itself was changed from Santa Maria de Galvez. He was also promoted to governor and captain general of West Florida.

While de Galvez had aided the American revolutionary effort, he had also restored most of Florida to Spanish control and had ensured protection of Spanish trade routes in the Gulf of Mexico. In 1785, he was promoted to Viceroy of New Spain. He died of an epidemic in Mexico City in 1786 at the age of 40.



Bernardo de Galvez

Spanish governor of Louisiana and commander of the Spanish troops which defeated British forces in West and East Florida during the American Revolution.

Americans have not forgotten Bernardo de Galvez. The city of Galveston, Texas, is named after him. A statue in his honor is in Washington, D.C.; a Bicentennial gift from Spain.



Santiago

Santiago was a slave who took part in the Spanish siege of the British garrison in Pensacola, Florida. He was cited by Bernardo de Galvez, the Spanish commander, for his actions during the battle.

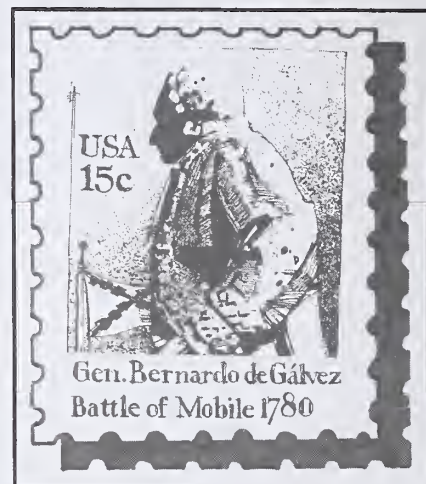
Drawing by Elio Gasperetti



de Galvez Family Coat of Arms

After his capture of Pensacola in 1781, Bernardo de Galvez was authorized by the King of Spain to change the family coat of arms. He added a ship on a shield with the motto "Yo Solo" (I alone) to the center of the coat of arms to commemorate his leadership in the assault on the city from Pensacola Bay.

In 1980, 200 years after his capture of Mobile, the U.S. Postal Service issued a commemorative stamp in his honor. Though a loyal citizen of Spain, he contributed greatly to the founding of our New Nation.



de Galvez Commemorative Stamp

In 1980, 200 years after his capture of Mobile, the U.S. government issued a commemorative stamp in honor of his assistance during the American Revolution.



George Farragut

Farragut was born on the Spanish island of Minorca and emigrated to North America. He joined the South Carolina Navy as a Lieutenant and fought in the attack on Savannah (1779) and the second defense of Charleston (1780). This depiction is not a true portrait, but is based upon one of his more famous son, Civil War Admiral David Farragut.

Drawing by Elio Gasperetti

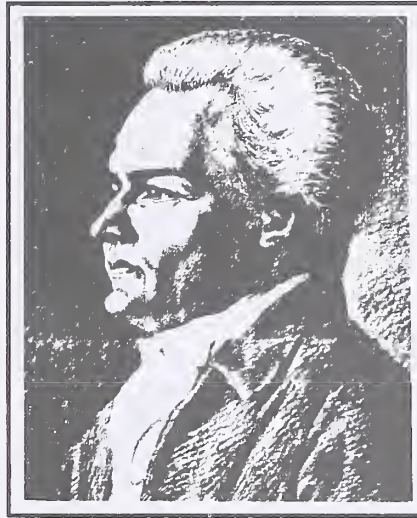
Francisco de Miranda

Francisco de Miranda was born in Caracas, Venezuela, on March 28, 1750. He was educated in Spain where his father helped him to obtain a commission in the Spanish army. After serving in Morocco, where he experienced heavy fighting for 2 years, Miranda returned to Spain in 1779. He soon left for New Spain where he served as a captain on the staff of Bernardo de Galvez during Galvez' first campaign against the British, which returned the lower Mississippi River to Spanish control. De Miranda also participated in the siege and capture of Pensacola and later in the Spanish capture of the Bahamas, which he negotiated as the official representative of the governor of Cuba.

While in Cuba, de Miranda played a role in obtaining supplies for the French Admiral de Grasse who then

sailed to the Chesapeake Bay to assist in the American capture of Yorktown.

As a result of these contributions to the American Revolution, a Park in Pensacola, Florida, a statue in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and a commuter bus in Chicago, Illinois, were dedicated in his honor.



Francisco de Miranda

Venezuelan officer who served under de Galvez during the Gulf campaigns in the American Revolution and an early leader in the fight for Latin American independence.

Although de Miranda had earned the patronage of his military superiors in Spain, he encountered political difficulties which caused him to desert the Spanish army. He set out immediately for the new United States in 1783 and studied the revolutionary experiences of the former British colonists. His orientation at that time was toward the freedom from Spain of all Spanish colonies. In 1784, he moved to Europe, where he volunteered to serve in the French revolutionary army and rendered valuable service.

Moving to London, de Miranda became the center of Spanish anti-colonialists and worked with the British government. In 1805, he returned to New York, from Europe, meeting many prominent politicians,

including President Jefferson. While in the United States he organized an expedition and attempted unsuccessfully to invade Venezuela. His efforts earned him the title "Precursor of Latin American Independence," by which he is remembered today.



Mexican-Indian Soldier

Mexican Indians and Mestizoes formed part of the Spanish forces under the command of Bernardo de Galvez and fought against the British during the Gulf campaigns of 1779-1781 during the American Revolution.

Drawing by Elio Gasperetti



Hispana Contributions to the American Revolution

In 1781, French and American forces were about to abandon their siege of Yorktown for lack of funds. Women in Havana, Cuba, however, took up a collection and were able to raise a substantial sum of money. By delivering their gift to the French Expeditionary force, they were able to insure that the siege would continue.



The Battle of Pensacola (1781)

In March 1781, troops under Bernardo de Galvez laid siege to the British-controlled city of Pensacola, Florida. The unanticipated explosion of a British powder magazine in one of two forts guarding the city enabled the Spanish forces to capture both forts after a short but sharp fight.

Engraving courtesy of Elio Gasperetti

Interim Years (1784–1823)

Introduction

With the successful conclusion of the American Revolution, Spain's colonial empire in North and South America was at its height. West and East Florida were returned to Spanish control as the price of their support for the new United States. Once again, the Mississippi River was open to Spanish merchants and soldiers. In addition, the British threat to Spanish trade routes across the Gulf of Mexico had been removed.

Ominous signs were on the horizon, however. The unification of the 13 newly independent American colonies into a national republic placed a competing political power along the border with Spanish colonies. In addition, forces within the United States were already arguing for expansion. Also, the activities of Francisco de Miranda raised the specter of revolution in Spanish colonies in South America.

To complicate matters, the Spanish throne was experiencing difficulties at home. Taking advantage of this apparent weakness, the French attempted to return to North America. In 1800, France persuaded Spain to sell the Louisiana territory; all Spanish lands from the Mississippi River west to the Rocky Mountains, including the city of New Orleans. Spain reluctantly agreed, but only if France promised not to relinquish any of this land to the United States.

France agreed with the Spanish proviso, but within 3 years became convinced that it could not sustain a presence in North America and, ignoring its pledge to Spain, offered to sell all of the Louisiana Territory to the United States. President Jefferson seized the opportunity and authorized \$15 million for purchase of the Louisiana Territory.

Spain now found its principal land holdings once again abutted by the United States and was further discomforted by having its colonies in the Floridas isolated from the rest of New Spain. The United States continued to apply pressure on the Spanish by sending Lewis and Clark to explore the northern half of Louisiana Territory in 1804–1806 and Zebulon Pike to explore the southern half of the Louisiana Territory in 1806–1807.

In 1810, U.S. forces seized part of Spanish-controlled West Florida. During the War of 1812 with Britain, the United States acquired another portion of West Florida from the British. It is also interesting to note that during the War of 1812, Spanish Americans from Louisiana joined General Andrew Jackson's defenders in defeating a British invasion force under British General Pakenham. Ironically, the Battle of New Orleans occurred after the treaty ending the war had been signed. Finally, in 1819, Spain decided to protect its holdings in Mexico, New Mexico, and California by selling all of its holdings in Florida east of the Mississippi to the United States. In addition, Spain agreed to relinquish any claim it might have to Oregon. The U.S. agreed to give up its claims to Texas, particularly that part between the Natchitoches and Rio Grande Rivers which Pike had explored in 1807.

The decline of Spain's colonial empire, however, was evident. By 1822, all Spanish colonies in North and South America, with the exceptions of Belize, Bolivia, and the Guianas, were to become independent.

Mexico

Within the *audiencia* of Nueva Galicia and the *audiencia* of Mexico, political unrest, which would more directly impact upon the United States, was brewing as well. In this area, Spanish colonial policy and administration had produced four politically and socially distinct groups:



Francis (Pepe) Diaz

Diaz was a lieutenant in the Puerto Rican militia. In April, 1797, he led a group of fifty men from the town of Tao Bajo, to San Juan. They participated in the defense of the town from British attack. By May, 1797, the British forces had been repelled, but Diaz had been killed in the fighting near Martin Pena Bridge. He is often called the first Puerto Rican hero, rather than being of Spanish, African or Indian descent. This is not a true portrait of Diaz, but it is based upon descriptions and uniforms of the period.

Drawing by Elio Gasperetti

(1) the Gachupines (wearer of spurs) or peninsulares—the native born Spaniards who ran the Colonial government; (2) the Creoles—Spaniards born in Mexico; (3) the Mestizos—persons of Spanish and Indian parentage; and (4) the Indians—full blooded original inhabitants conquered by Spain. By the 1800's, there were approximately 40,000 Gachupines, one million Creoles, one and one-half million Mestizos, and one million Indians.

The Mestizos and Indians were denied political or social influence. The Creoles were merchants and artisans with social influence but little political power.

As the Creole class grew in size, so did its political frustrations. Increasingly they viewed themselves as Mexican rather than Spanish and they resented the colonial controls. Successful revolutions in the United States and France only encouraged them to seek their own independence.

During the Spanish Colonial period in Mexico (1519–1821), conspiracies and rebellions erupted. None, however, were successful. In 1810, Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, a Creole priest, raised the banner of revolt and an army of Indians and Mestizos rallied at his manifesto “Grito de Dolores.” Father Hidalgo was successful in his efforts. He was eventually betrayed and executed in March 1811. His place was assumed by Jose Maria Morelos y Pavon, a Mestizo priest who carried on the fight until 1815, when he too was executed.

In 1820, Colonel Agustin de Iturbide, who had fought both Hidalgo and Morelos, deserted to the revolutionaries. In conjunction with Vincente Guerrero, their rebel leader, he issued the “Plan de Iguala” which espoused three principles: (1) Mexican freedom; (2) equality for all Mexicans; and (3) Catholicism as the official religion. Their document was recognized by Spain in September 1821, and Mexico became an independent state. This meant that the Spanish colonies of New California, New Mexico, Santa Fe, and Texas were now provinces of Mexico.

Texas-Mexican Frontier (1824–1845)

Introduction

The Mexican declaration of independence in November 1821 did not resolve the country’s problems. It

lacked a unified government and suffered from economic problems. A ruling military junta was established as was an independent Congress. In May 1822, Agustin de Iturbide, leader of the revolution, was proclaimed constitutional emperor of Mexico. Iturbide was unable to resolve the economic problems facing him and his suppression of political opponents; plus, his dissolution of the Congress, caused a military revolt lead by Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna. In February 1823, Santa Anna’s forces occupied Mexico City and deposed de Iturbide. In 1824, the revolutionaries wrote a Constitution, similar to that of the United States, which provided for a federal system with an elected President.

Origins of Revolt

Despite Spanish and Mexican fears of land grabbing by Americans, the Mexican government issued an immigration grant to Moses Austin which would permit settlement of part of Texas by immigrants from the United States. Austin died before he could exercise the grant, but after Santa Anna’s republican revolution of 1823, the grant was reissued to his son Stephen F. Austin. It allowed him to bring 300 families into Texas. Each family received 177 acres of farm land plus 13,000 acres of prairie pasture. The only conditions of the grant were that the colonists obey Mexican law and establish no religion other than Catholicism.

The new American immigrants ignored both conditions. In 1824, Stephen F. Austin helped in the drafting of the new Constitution. As a reward, his immigration grant was renewed. In 1829, the Mexican government abolished slavery which disturbed many of Austin’s settlers who were pro-slavery southerners, but Austin obtained an exemption for the Americans who had already imported slaves.

By 1830, the Mexican government became concerned about the U.S. immigrants who were regarded as drunken, lazy people who ridiculed the Catholic clergy and lived off slave labor. One group of Americans had even initiated a Texas independence movement in 1826. Consequently, the Mexican Congress passed a law in 1830 which prohibited further American settlement and which called for strict enforcement of the anti-slavery laws. Such efforts, however, were too late. There were already 20,000 U.S. immigrants in Texas and their presence helped to reduce raids by the Comanche.

In 1833, when Santa Anna became President of Mexico, he centralized the government and abolished the 1824 Constitution. In 1835, Santa Anna announced a new constitution which abolished all Mexican state governments.

The Texan leaders realized that Santa Anna’s new constitution would give them no voice in the Mexican government. With the support of Mexican liberals, the Texans proclaimed their independence from Mexico and elected David Burnet and Lorenzo de Zavala, a Mexican, to the presidency and vice presidency of the Lone Star Republic.

The Revolt

Santa Anna reacted vigorously to the rebellion. He was hindered by the fact that the Texans out-numbered the Mexicans by almost 10 to 1 and that not all Mexicans in Texas supported his government. Nonetheless, Santa Anna decided to raise an army and march north to punish the revolutionaries.

Santa Anna left Mexico City on November 28, 1835. He had 800 miles to travel to reach the rebellious Texans. On his way, he raised, organized, and drilled an army of 6,000 to 8,000 troops. On February 23, 1835, they arrived at San Antonio de Bexar and found approximately 200 Texans located in an old Franciscan mission known locally as the Alamo.

Among the Texan defenders of the Alamo were Davy Crockett, Jim Bowie, and Bill Travis. Also among the defenders were seven Mexicans: Juan Abanillo, Juan Antonio Badillo, Carlos Espalier, Gregorio Esparza, Antonio Fuentes, Calba Fugua, and Jose Maria Guerrero. They were all members of a company of Mexicans raised by Captain Juan N. Seguin of San Antonio to assist in the Texan cause. Other members of Seguin's company were serving with other Texan forces.

Santa Anna's troops immediately besieged the Texans, engaging them with artillery. Captain Seguin was selected to be a courier. Being from San Antonio, he knew the area and he spoke Spanish, which should help him get through Santa Anna's lines. He left with his aide, Antonio Cruz, for help, but no relief column arrived in time. On March 6, 1835, Santa Anna's forces assaulted the Alamo and captured it. There were 183 Texans who died; six of them Mexicans. The seventh, Jose Maria Guerrero, escaped by claiming to Mexicans troops that he was a prisoner of the Texans. Other survivors of the Alamo were Henry Esparza, a 12-year-old

at the time (his father Gregorio was killed) and seven women (six Mexican and one Texan) who were wives of men who died there.

Captain Seguin returned to San Antonio after Santa Anna's defeat and surrender at the battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1835. He gathered the charred remains of the bodies of the Alamo's defenders and buried them in the Church of San Fernando. Eventually, he was promoted to Colonel and became commander of the military post at San Antonio de Bexar.

On May 14, 1836, Santa Anna signed a treaty ending the war and recognizing the independence of Texas. He returned to Mexico City and nullified the treaty.

In 1841, Texas tried to extend its influence over New Mexico, but failed. In 1842, Mexico launched two abortive invasions of Texas, occupying San Antonio in one instance before withdrawing. The British minister to Texas negotiated a truce between Texas and Mexico in 1843, but did not formally recognize the Republic. In 1845, Texas voted to become part of the United States.



Lieutenant Colonel John Nepomucene Seguin

Seguin, a Mexican/Texan, supported the Texan independence movement and fought with distinction at the battle of San Antonio (1835) and the battle of San Jacinto (1836). He was among the defenders of the Alamo, but missed death when he and his aide were sent out with a message seeking reinforcements. After the war, Seguin returned to San Antonio where he commanded the military post there and later served two terms as the city's mayor. American/Texans soon gained political control of the city and Mexican/Texan inhabitants were subjected to various forms of prejudice and discrimination. Seguin moved to Mexico in 1842 to escape charges of treason, but found himself subjected to similar charges in Mexico. He was forced to join the Mexican Army and served in two abortive attempts to retake Texas. By 1848, he was finally allowed to return to Texas, where he lived until his death.



The Alamo

The rendition above depicts the final assault of the Alamo by Mexican troops under Santa Anna in March 1836. One hundred eighty-three Texans died, including six Mexican/Texans.



A Texas Hussar

The Texas Hussars were an 18th century Spanish/Mexican mounted corps which patrolled the Texas Territory and protected the inhabitants from attacks by Indians.

Drawing by Elio Gasperetti

Civil War (1861–1865)

Introduction

Despite the admission of Texas as a state in 1845, tensions along the border between the United States and Mexico did not decrease. Americans coveted the rich lands in California and the territory along trade routes to the west coast. War between the two nations seemed inevitable as Mexico sought to regain Texas and the Texans argued about the western border of their territory, claiming it to be the Rio Grande River rather than the Nueces River as asserted by Mexico.

War eventually broke out in 1846. American troops moved into the disputed areas occupying Santa Fe and Southern California. Other American forces moved south into Mexico in 1847, seizing Buena Vista and another group invaded the east coast of Mexico, taking Vera Cruz and

Mexico City itself. Santa Anna led the Mexican forces as he had in 1835. He attempted to lure American soldiers to desert by offering them cash and land. Few accepted.

Much of the Mexican-American War was the product of U.S. expansionism and prejudicial disregard of Mexicans. American public opinion considered Mexicans to be “savage, barbaric, immoral, and corrupt.” This image was reflected in the news media of the period by stereotypic drawings such as the two of Generals Arista and Paredes on page 21. To the right of each drawing is a portrait which reflects more accurately the actual appearance of each man.

The war ended on February 2, 1848, when the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was signed. The treaty ceded all of Mexico’s territory in New Mexico and California to the United States in return for a payment of \$18.25 million. Each side condemned the other for actions during the war and deep seated resentments remained.

Internal divisions resulted in a series of national governments which prevented Mexico from taking further action. During the war itself, most Mexicans resisted the American onslaught. However, a little known key participant in the Mexican war was Manuel Dominguez, a peasant weaver who assisted General Winfield Scott by leading an all Mexican “Spy Company” in the campaign against Vera Cruz. His “Spy Company” assisted the American army as spies and couriers.

Civil War

The 1860 census showed 27,466 Mexican Americans living in the United States. When war broke out between the states in 1861, this community found itself divided. Approximately 2,550 Mexican-Americans joined Confederate military units and another 1,000 joined the Union forces. In all, as many as 9,900 Mexican-Americans fought during the war. Most Mexican-Americans served in regular army or volunteer units on an in-

tegrated basis, although some served in predominately Mexican units with their own officers.

It has been estimated that more than 40,000 books and pamphlets, enough to fill several libraries, have been written about the Civil War. The contributions of racial groups such as blacks and American Indians in this conflict have been documented. Only one book, *Vaqueros in Blue and Gray*, has been printed about the role of Mexican-Americans. The all-Mexican units tended to be volunteer militia units. During the Civil War, Mexican-Americans fought for both the Union and the Confederacy.

The Union

In 1863, the U.S. Government authorized the military commander in California to raise four companies of native Mexican-American Californians in order to take advantage of their “extraordinary horsemanship.” As a result, the First Battalion of Native Cavalry, with Major Salvador Vallejo commanding, was created. At least 469 Mexican-Americans served in the four companies of the First Battalion of Native Cavalry. They were stationed in various posts throughout the Department of the Pacific in California and Arizona.



Major Salvador Vallejo

Vallejo served as a captain in California’s Mexican militia before the U.S. war with Mexico. During the American Civil War, he became an officer in one of the California units which served with the Union Army in the west.

They served bravely while guarding supply trains, chasing marauding bands of Confederate raiders, and helping to defeat a Confederate invasion of New Mexico. Regrettably, most of the unit's records were lost.

In New Mexico, Miguel E. Pino raised the Second Regiment of New Mexico volunteers, which he commanded as its colonel. In addition, at least six independent militia companies (five infantry, one cavalry) were raised in the state for 3 month's service each. Most of the members of these units were Mexican-Americans, as were their commanders. Like the California unit, they too served principally as border guards and fought in numerous small engagements. Among the new Mexico volunteers there were an estimated 4,000 Mexican-Americans. Lt. Colonel Chavez also commanded a New Mexican militia unit and General Stanilus Montoya commanded the Socorro County, New Mexico militia.



Colonel Michael Pino

Pino commanded a unit of Hispanic volunteers in the militia of New Mexico Territory. In 1862, he helped the Union Army defeat a Confederate attempt to invade the Arizona/New Mexico area. This drawing is not a true portrait, but is based upon descriptions and uniforms of the period.

Drawing by Elio Gasperetti

Another non-Texas unit with a number of Spanish-speaking soldiers was the 55th New York State Militia, "The Garde Lafayette."

In Texas, the Union raised 12 companies of Mexican-American cavalry, originally organized into two regiments but later consolidated in one, the First

Regiment of Texas Cavalry (Union). Most of the officers in this unit were non-Hispanic, although several Mexican Texans (Tejanos) served as captains (George Trevino, Clemente Zapata, Cesario Falcon, and Jose Maria Martines) and Lieutenants (Ramon Garcia Falcon, Antonio Abad Dias, Santos Cadena, and Cecilio Vela).

HEAD QUARTERS.

KNOW ALL MEN:

That Antonio Lopez de Santa-Anna, President of the United States of Mexico and Commander in chief of the Mexican armies has been duly authorized to make the following concessions to all and every one of the persons now in the American army who will present themselves before me or any of the commanding officers of the Mexican forces, viz:

1.st Every soldier in the American army who appears before me or any of the commanding officers of the Mexican armies is to receive immediately *ten dollars* cash, if coming without arms, and a larger amount if he is armed, in order to cover the cost of the arms he may bring.

2.nd Every person who deserts the American army followed by 100 men is entitled to receive as soon as he presents himself with his men, \$500 cash, besides the \$10 to which every one of the soldiers is entitled, as well as the extra allowance in case they be armed.

3.rd He who deserts with 200 men has right to claim and shall be paid immediately \$1000 cash, and so on at the rate of \$500, for every hundred men; or the proportional amount if the number be under one hundred; without including the \$10 allowed to every soldier, nor the cost of arms and ammunitions, all of which will invariably be paid besides.

4.th All and every one of the soldiers in the American army who will desert and appear before me or any of the Commanding officers of the Mexican forces, as aforesaid, besides the abovementioned gratifications in cash, are hereby entitled to claim and will immediately receive from me or any of the Commanding officers a document or bond by which the propriety of a grant of land consisting of 200 square acres will be ensured to them as well as to their families or heirs. The division of such grants will be made as soon as the present war is over.

5.th The Officers in the American army are not only entitled to the aforesaid document or bond but the number of acres in addition to the 200 allowed to the soldiers, will be computed in proportion to the respective grades they hold.

6.th Those who desert the American army and enter the Mexican service are to continue in it during the present campaign, and those of the same nation are to remain together if they choose and under the immediate command of their own officers, who will continue in the same grades they held in the American army.

7.th All those persons who come over to the Mexican armies shall be considered, rewarded and promoted in the same way as the Mexicans and according to their services in the present campaign.

The preceding articles shall be duly published in order that the Mexican Authorities may act in conformity thereto.

Head Quarters. Orizava the April 1847.

Antonio Lopez de Santa-Anna.

Santa Anna's Notice

During the U.S. War with Mexico in 1846, Santa Anna, commander of the Mexican forces, attempted to entice American soldiers to desert by offering them cash and land. Few Americans accepted his offer, but enough did to create a battalion-size unit. Many of its members were executed after recapture by American forces.



Lieutenant Colonel Manuel Chaves

Chaves was a direct descendant of a Spanish soldier who had come to the southwest in 1600. During the war with Mexico (1846–1848), he had fought against the United States, but became a loyal citizen when New Mexico became a U.S. Territory. From 1855–1863, Chaves gained a reputation as an Indian fighter although he did not personally experience the rabid anti-Indian emotions of the period. When the Civil War broke out, Chaves joined the New Mexico volunteers and fought at the battle of Glorieta Pass (March 1862), in which Union forces defeated the most serious of the Confederate attempts to invade New Mexico.



The New Mexico Volunteers

The New Mexico volunteers were probably the oldest militia organization in the New Mexico Territory. The unit's members and officers were predominantly Hispanic. During the Civil War, the unit was incorporated into the Union Army. In 1862, it fought in the battle of Valverde (a Confederate victory) and in the battle at Glorieta Pass (a Union victory). After 1862, the unit was principally engaged in patrolling and minor skirmishes. The Spanish-style uniform shown here is from 1850. It may still have been in use at the beginning of the Civil War.

Drawing by Elio Gasperetti



Captain Roman Anthony Baca

Baca joined the Union forces as an officer in the New Mexico volunteers. He also served as a spy for the Union army in Texas. After the war he became a rancher in New Mexico Territory and served several terms in the territorial legislature.



General Arista

General Paredes

American Stereotypes of Mexicans

Much of the Mexican-American War (1846–1848) was the product of U.S. expansionism and prejudicial disregard of Mexicans. American public opinion portrayed Mexicans as barbaric, corrupt savages. The drawings of General Arista (left) and General Paredes (right) are typical of the rendering of Mexican leaders in the American press. To the left of each sketch is a portrait which more accurately reflects the actual appearance of each man.

Admiral David G. Farragut

The most famous Hispanic participant in the Union forces was in the Navy. David G. Farragut was born on July 5, 1801. His father, a Spaniard, had come to the United States in 1776 and participated in both the American Revolution and the War of 1812.

When David Farragut was nine, he was appointed a midshipman in the U.S. Navy (the term was used to denote young men who were apprenticed aboard ship to learn various tasks of the men they would grow to command). As a boy of 13, Farragut served aboard the *USS Essex* during the War of 1812. After the war, David continued his apprenticeship on several cruises to the Mediterranean. During the war with Mexico, Farragut commanded the sloop-of-war *Saratoga*, but saw no combat. His ship was assigned to blockade duty off Vera Cruz.

In 1854, Farragut established the Mare Island Navy Yard near San Francisco, and he had returned to his home in Norfolk, Virginia when the Civil War broke out. When Virginia seceded, however, he backed the Union and moved to New York. Farragut's first wartime assignment was as a member of a naval board reviewing records of officers to select those to be retired. He soon received command and was ordered to use his West Gulf Blockading Squadron to attack and capture New Orleans.

On April 18, 1862, Farragut opened his assault on the city by bombarding one of two Confederate forts guarding the Mississippi River approach to the city. After 5 days of continuous bombardment, Farragut's fleet sailed past the devastated forts on April 24 and engaged the Confederate ships above the forts. After a furious battle, the Union ships succeeded in getting through and they sailed into New Orleans on April 25th. On the 26th, Union troops under General Benjamin Butler occupied the city.

Farragut proceeded up the river to capture Vicksburg, but was unsuccessful. He



Admiral David G. Farragut

Painting by A. Conrad

U.S. Naval History Photograph NH49699

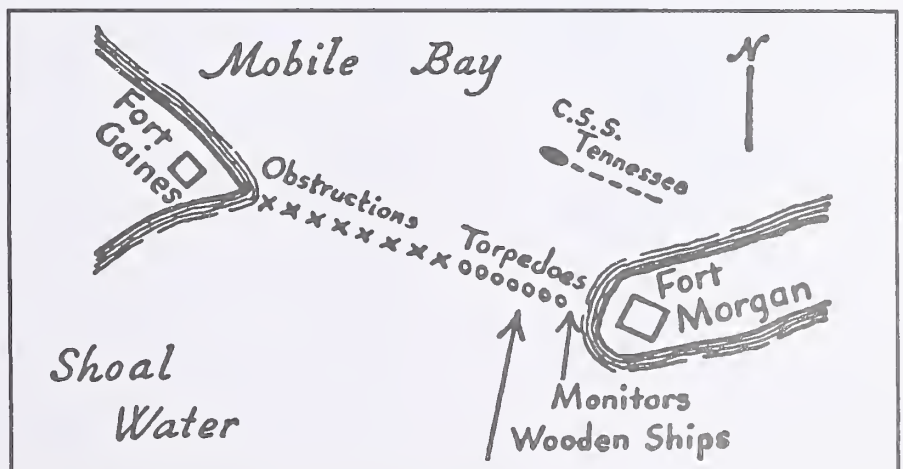
then attacked the Confederate forts at Port Hudson, 135 miles north of New Orleans. The forts protected Confederate supply routes to Louisiana, Texas, and Arkansas. In this battle, Farragut developed the tactics for attacking forts which would make him famous. On March 13, 1863, Farragut's squadron attacked the Port Hudson forts. Although they were unable to reduce the forts, they were able to get two ships past the Confederate guns, thus interdicting the Confederate supply routes.

After the battle at Port Hudson, Farragut refitted and repaired his ships. He also prepared for the battle which was to insure his fame as a naval leader.

Mobile, Alabama, was one of three great cotton ports in the South. New Orleans was already under Union control, thanks to Farragut, and now he approached the second largest port—Mobile. The city itself was situated at the north end of Mobile Bay, at the confluence of the Mobile and Alabama Rivers. The Bay was a 35-mile-long extension of the Gulf of Mexico into Alabama. The city was protected by two Confederate forts, each of which lay on a finger of land extending into the Gulf to create the Bay (see map). In the narrow entrance to Mobile Bay, the Confederates had driven wooden piles and anchored explosive mines to them. (Mines were called "torpedoes" at that time.) Behind the forts was the Confederate ironclad ram, *CSS Tennessee*.

In the early morning hours of August 5, 1864, Farragut's fleet approached the mouth of the Bay. Union troops had already placed Fort Gaines under siege, so his principal worries were Fort Morgan, the torpedoes, and the *CSS Tennessee*. Farragut's fleet contained 14 wooden ships and 4 ironclad monitors. His plan was to force a way through the torpedoes while engaging the guns in Fort Morgan.

The four slower monitors advanced first, followed by the wooden ships. Not long after opening fire on Fort Morgan, the leading monitor, *Tecumseh*, struck a torpedo and sank. Following behind the *Tecumseh* was the wooden ship *Brooklyn*. It slowed, stopped, and began to back up to keep from running into the other slower



Sketch Map of Mobile Bay Prior to Farragut's Assault

monitors and to avoid a "row of suspicious-looking buoys" under its bow. In the confusion which followed, Farragut sent two signals, "order the monitors ahead, and go on" and "I will take the lead."

He maneuvered his ship, the *Hartford*, around the *Brooklyn*, and proceeded at full speed. It was later reported that as they passed the *Brooklyn*, Farragut shouted "Damn the torpedoes! Full speed ahead!" His ship passed over the moored mines, scraping them but causing no explosions. The remaining ships followed him and engaged the *Tennessee*. After a vicious battle, the *Tennessee* was forced to surrender and the city of Mobile was open to occupation by the Union.

After the capture of Mobile, Farragut was commissioned Admiral of the Navy on July 26, 1866. He then took command of the European Squadron. While sailing abroad with the squadron, he visited his father's birthplace at Ciudadela, Minorca, in the Mediterranean Sea and received a hero's welcome. Other European nations also honored him. He died in 1872 having gained international fame as a great naval leader.

Confederacy

Other Hispanics served in Confederate units such as the Benavides Regiment, commanded by Colonel Santos Benavides, and the 10th Texas Cavalry, commanded by Major Leonides M. Martin.

According to the historian Jerry Don Thompson, significant numbers of Hispanics also served in the 55th Alabama Infantry, Manigault's Battalion of South Carolina Artillery, 6th Missouri Infantry, the Chalmette Regiment of Louisiana Infantry, and the Second Texas Mounted Rifles. Other Confederate units which contained large numbers of Hispanics included Vigil's Independent Company of Cavalry, the Louisiana Zouaves Battalion, 1st Florida Cavalry, the Spanish

Legion of the European Brigade, the Spanish Guard (part of the Home Guard of Mobile, Alabama), and four independent New Mexico militia companies known by their commanders' names (Gonzales, Martinez, Tafolla, and Perea).



Colonel Santos Benavides

Commander of the Benavides Regiment in the Confederate Army and defender of Laredo, Texas.

Photo courtesy St. Mary's University Library

The conflict in Texas deeply divided the Mexican-Texans. An estimated 2,550 fought in the ranks of the Confederacy, while 950, including some Mexican nationals, fought for the Union.

In many ways, by 1863, the Civil War in South Texas had become a civil war within a civil war. It was now Texan against Texan, Mexican-Texan against Mexican-Texan. After the hasty retreat of the bulk of the Confederate forces from the lower Rio Grande Valley, the only sizeable Rebel force remaining to defend the area around Laredo, Texas, was commanded by Colonel Santos Benavides. This unit was better known as the "Benavides Regiment."

Santos Benavides was born on November 1, 1823, in Laredo, Texas. As a young man he first tasted the sting of battle during Mexico's Federalist-Centralist wars which ravaged the Rio Grande Valley from 1838 to 1840. In 1856, he became the Mayor of Laredo and at the time of the Civil War, he had become a leading politician and financial figure in the area. He rose quickly in the Confederate ranks from captain to colonel.

Commanding his own regiment, he was the highest ranking Mexican-American in the Confederate Army. Although Generals Hamilton Lee, Slaughter, and Magruder recommended promotion for Benavides to Brigadier General, Colonel John "Rip" Ford was against such a decision, feeling it would diminish his role in the Rio Grande exploits.



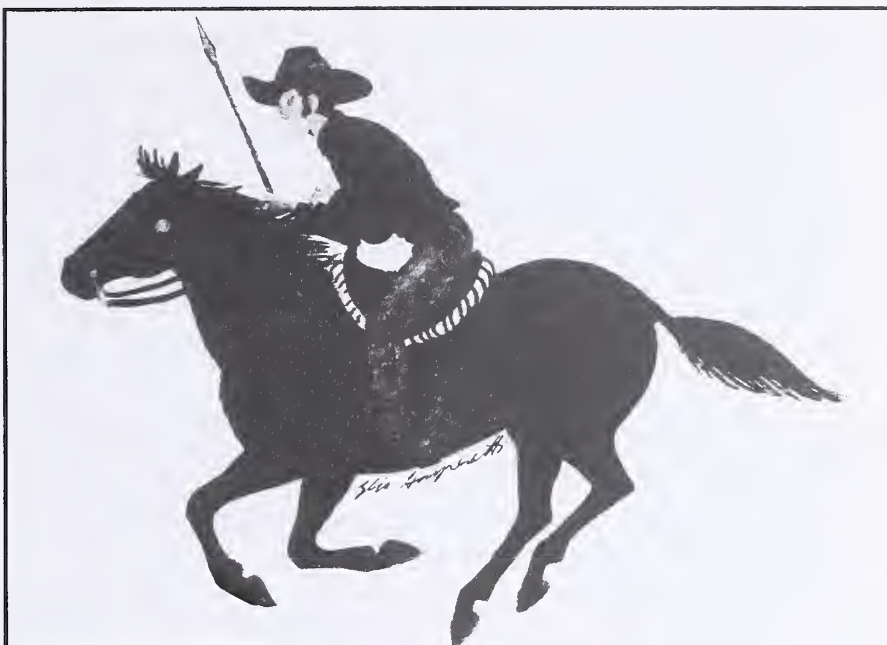
Captain Joseph De La Garza

As a lieutenant, de La Garza served 3 years in the Confederate Army. Upon his discharge, he returned to San Antonio, but re-enlisted in 1864 with the rank of captain. His unit was rushed north to resist the Union attempt to invade Texas in the Red River Campaign. He was killed at the battle of Mansfield which turned back the Northern columns.

Photo courtesy Helen Yturri

In March of 1864, Confederate Brigadier General Hamilton P. Lee asked Colonel Benavides to ride to Brownsville to save the 100-man post which was under siege from elements of the Union's XIII Corps. Included in

this group was the 2nd Texas Union Cavalry, a Brownsville unit newly formed of Unionist Mexican-Texans. The 33rd Cavalry commanded by Colonel Benavides rose to the occasion, and drove the Union forces back. A month after General Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox, the Civil War ended for Santos Benavides, his two courageous brothers, and the Mexican-Texans of the Lone Star State. "Tejanos" (as the Mexican-Americans from Texas are called) had been among the first to take up arms for the Confederacy and were among the last to surrender.



Vigil's Independent Company of Cavalry

Vigil's Company was one of five independent militia companies and one militia battalion from New Mexico which joined the Confederate Army. Of the six units, they were the only cavalry unit. All six units were principally composed of Spanish-speaking personnel. Their term of service was short, for Confederate forces were quickly expelled from New Mexico Territory in 1862.

Drawing by Elio Gasperetti



1st Florida Cavalry

One of a number of Florida units containing men of Spanish ancestry which fought for the Confederacy.

Drawing by Elio Gasperetti

The Louisiana Zouaves Battalion

A Confederate unit raised from the foreign-born in New Orleans. It contained a number of Spanish and Mexican troops.

Drawing by Elio Gasperetti





Brownsville, Texas

On November 2, 1863, the Confederates evacuated Brownsville under threat of capture by Union forces. The 33rd Cavalry (Benevides Regiment) was in the Confederate force which successfully defended the city.



She Fought as a Man

Loretta Janet Velasquez was a Cuban-born woman who masqueraded as a male Confederate soldier. She enlisted in the Confederate Army in 1860, without her soldier-husband's knowledge. She fought at Bull Run, Ball's Bluff, and Fort Donelson, but was detected while in New Orleans and discharged. Undeterred, she re-enlisted and fought at Shiloh until unmasked once more. She then took duty as a spy, working in both male and female guise. Her husband died during the war and she remarried three more times; being widowed in each instance. She traveled throughout the West before settling in Austin, Nevada.

Courtesy Elio Gasperetti

Spanish-American War (1898)

Introduction

By the mid-1820's, Spain had lost most of its colonial possessions in North and South America. One area which it did retain, however, was in the Caribbean and included the islands of Cuba and Puerto Rico. Cuba, particularly, soon entered a period of social and political unrest with the institution and then suppression of several Constitutions in the period 1812-1814.

In the years 1826 and 1835, Cubans initiated at least two armed revolts which were unsuccessful. Later attempts in the 1840's, supported by Cuban refugees in the United States, were equally unsuccessful. In 1850, Americans constituted two-thirds of a force under General Narciso Lopez which invaded Cuba. They were defeated by the Spanish Army after capturing the city of Gardenas. In 1851 and again in 1854, two more expeditions against Cuba were similarly repulsed by Spain. From 1868 to 1878, Cuban revolutionaries engaged in the Ten Year's War but were eventually defeated by Spanish force of arms, commanded by General Martinez Campos.

In 1892, the Cuban Revolutionary Party (Partido Revolucionario Cubano) was established by the poet and patriot Jose Marti. On February 25, 1892, after working among the Cuban emigre groups in the United States and the Caribbean, Marti and his followers issued the cry of armed revolt—the grito de Baire (Cry of Baire). A three-pronged attack was planned. Cuban forces under Antonio Macio in Costa Rica, Maximo Gomez in Santo Domingo, and Serafin Sanchez and Carlos Raloff in the United States set out to invade Cuba. The U.S. group was intercepted and turned back by the U.S. Navy, but the other two groups succeeded in landing on the island. From 1895-1896, they practiced guerrilla and economic warfare, raiding Spanish military posts and burning crops in the hope of forcing Spain

out. The United States declared itself to be officially neutral in the struggle.



General Anthony Maceo

Maceo was a Cuban and a leader in the Ten Year's War (1868-1878), the first major war for Cuban independence. From exile in Costa Rica, he served as second-in-command to General-in-Chief Gomez, and fought in the final revolt which began in 1895. He was a major antagonist to the Spanish forces, but was finally trapped and killed in 1896, 2 years before eventual freedom from Spain.

On July 15, 1895, the Cuban Republic was declared but Spain responded by sending more troops under General Arsenio Martinez de Campos to put down the revolt. General Campos relied upon pacification tactics and a defensive line of forts and blockhouses (trocha) to suppress the rebellion. He was replaced in 1896 by General Valeriano Weyler y Nicolau, who escalated the conflict by building a second trocha and by resettling the populace into "reconcentrated" areas similar to the strategic hamlets which would be used in Vietnam in the 1960's.

Weyler's intent was to isolate the guerrillas from the populace, but it served only to turn world public opinion against him—particularly in the United States. The American public demanded action to support the Cuban insurrectionists, but the policy of neutrality prevailed. The U.S. presidential elections of 1896 concentrated on domestic issues of the economy although a watchful eye was set toward Cuba.

After the election, the American press began to publicize the plight of the Cuban citizens in the makeshift Spanish reconcentration centers, and



General Maximus Gomez

Gomez was a prominent leader in the Ten Year's War (1868-1878), the major struggle for Cuban independence. He returned to Cuba in 1895 from exile and served as General-in-Chief in the final war for independence. He commanded all Cuban forces which cooperated with the American Army during the Spanish-American War in 1898.

the U.S. Government was requested to act. Although General Weyler was replaced in 1897, the horror stories of his policies continued. The battleship Maine was then sent to Havana harbor to protect American citizens and property as the political situation deteriorated.

U.S. Involvement

On February 15, 1898, a mysterious explosion ripped apart the Maine, killing 260 Americans. The U.S. press demanded action. On April 11, 1898, the United States declared war on Spain with the avowed purpose of freeing the oppressed Cubans.

The U.S. Army of 1898 was a small professional force scattered in posts throughout the country. It consisted of approximately 30,000 officers and men in comparison to nearly 200,000 Spanish troops in Cuba. In June 1898, 17,000 American soldiers landed on

the southeastern tip of Cuba at Daiquiri, near the city of Santiago.

Among the U.S. forces were 1,200 men of the 1st U.S. Volunteer Cavalry under Colonel Leonard Wood and Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt. More commonly known as the "Rough Riders," this unit was an amalgam of America. Approximately five percent were recent immigrants from foreign countries. Another 20 percent were from Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Indian Territories. The remainder came from each state in the Union.

As might be expected, Hispanics were among those who served in the Rough Riders. Among them were private John B. Alamia, Sergeant George W. Armijo, Private G.W. Aringo, Private Jose M. Baca, Private Frank C. Brito, Private Jose Brito, Private Abel B. Duran, Private Joseph L. Duran, Captain Maximiliano Luna, and Saddler Joe T. Sandoval.

Captain Maximiliano Luna was perhaps the most distinguished Hispanic member of the Rough Riders. He was descended directly from the conquistadors who settled New Mexico in 1650 and his family had lived along the Rio Grande River since the 17th century. He was 38 years old when he joined the Rough Riders, having been educated at the Jesuit College in Las Vegas, Nevada and at Georgetown University in the District of Columbia. His father had represented the New Mexico Territory in the U.S. Congress and he himself had been in the Territorial legislature as well as serving as sheriff of Valencia County.

Captain Luna was athletic and an accomplished musician. He was living in Santa Fe with his wife and selling insurance when he decided to join the Rough Riders.

After landing in Cuba, the Rough Riders and the rest of the American Army marched to Siboney, had their first combat at Las Guasimas, and pushed toward San-



The Rough Riders

Officers of the 1st Volunteer Cavalry pose in 1898 prior to departing for Florida and Cuba. Colonel Leonard Wood, the commanding officer, is fourth from the left in the first row. Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt is fifth from the left in the first row. Captain Maximiliano Luna, the sole Hispanic officer in the unit is standing behind Lt. Colonel Roosevelt (circle).

tiago where they overran Spanish forts at El Caney and on San Juan Hill. During the fighting, George Armijo and G.W. Aringo were wounded.

In conjunction with Cuban forces, the Americans besieged the Spanish garrison in Santiago itself. After the Spanish Navy was defeated outside Santiago Harbor, the city surrendered. Colonel Wood was named Military Governor of Santiago and Captain Luna served as his interpreter.

Cuban Forces

The Cuban revolutionaries had been fighting for 3 years under General Maximo Gomez, prior to the American

landing. They anticipated that American support would tip the balance of power in their favor.

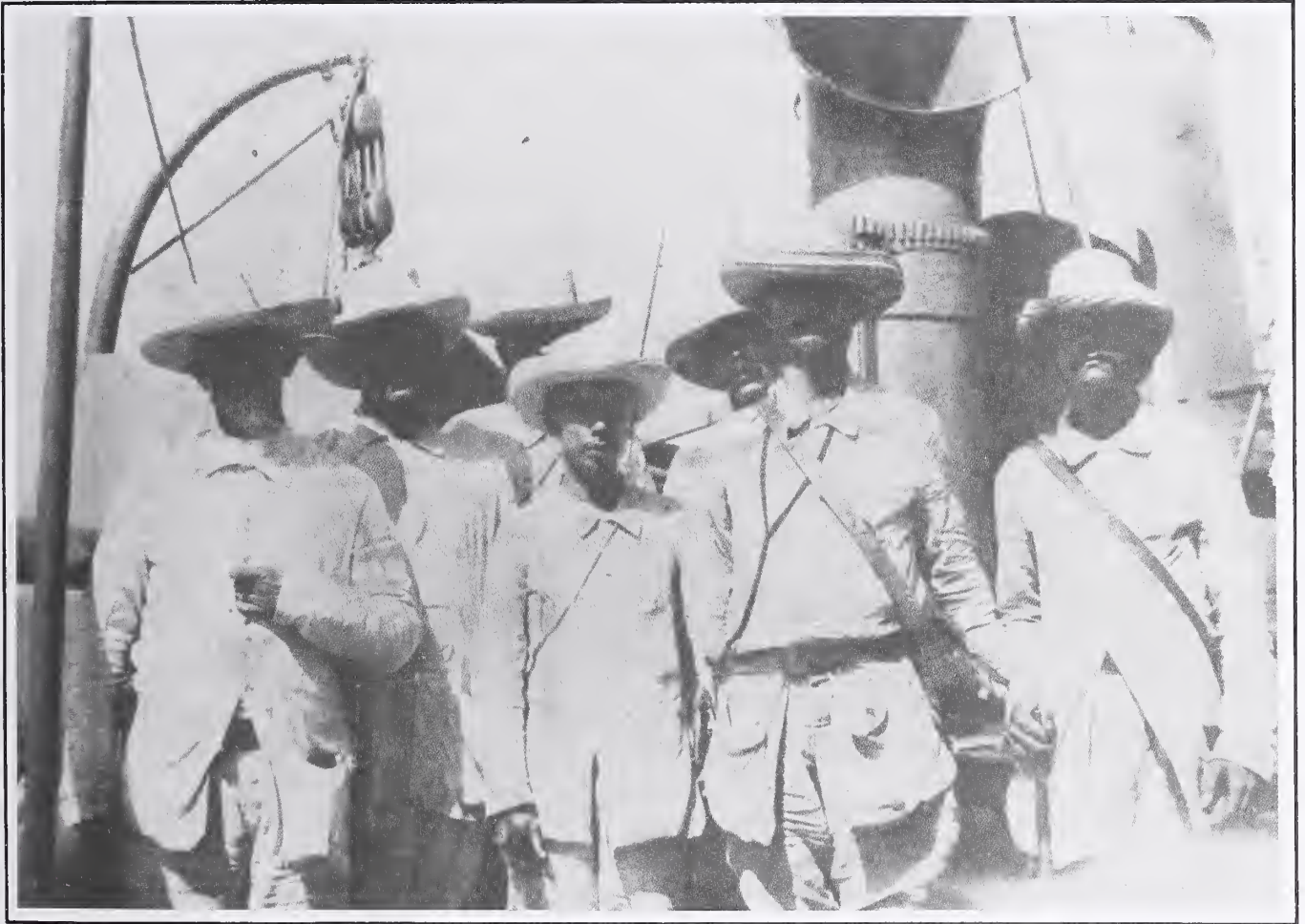
By successfully waging a war of attrition and by using guerrilla forces, the Cubans had managed to isolate the Spanish by confining them to the cities and the blockhouses.

The Cubans divided the island into two parts, the Eastern Department, commanded by General Calixto Garcia, and the Western Department, commanded by General J.M. Rodrigues.

In May 1898, the Americans provided a shipload of arms to the Cubans and in June General Garcia

conferred with the American force commander, General Shaffer, about how the Cubans would support the landing. The Cubans agreed to keep the Spanish bottled up in the cities and to clear the proposed landing site.

The American forces were impressed with the Cuban plan and personnel, but soon after landing, relations deteriorated. The condition of the haggard Cuban forces disappointed the well-equipped Americans, who overlooked their previous long struggles. In addition, white Americans reacted unfavorably to the large number of blacks among the insurrectionists. As a result, the Cubans felt slighted and were angered at not being given more important assignments.



Cuban Guerrillas

Cuban General Riss and his staff during the Spanish-American War, 1898.

U.S. Naval History Photograph NH 1005



Spanish-American War Survivors

This photo, taken in 1963, shows the last three survivors of the Rough Riders. From left to right they are: Charles O. Hopping, Jesse D. Langdon, and Frank C. Brito, the only surviving Hispanic member.

Wars End

The Spanish garrison surrendered Santiago on July 17, 1898. Eight days later, American forces landed in Puerto Rico and captured the island by August 12. On August 13, one day after the end of the war, American troops took Manila, capital city of the Philippines.

As a result of the peace treaty ending the war, Spain relinquished control of Cuba, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, and Guam, all of which fell under American influence. Spain's colonial empire was now gone.

George Armijo, an Hispanic Rough Rider, became a member of Congress after the war. A military camp at Las Vegas, New Mexico was named after Captain Maximiliano Luna. It was later converted to a career and trade school and still bears his name, "Luna Trade School." Frank Brito was one of the last surviving Rough Riders. He died in 1968.

World War I (1914–1918)

The Early War Experience

In March 1917, four American merchant ships were sunk on the open seas by German submarines. Prior to that incident, the United States had been a nonparticipant in the conflict raging in Europe. In April, the United States declared war, but was ill-prepared to assume fighting immediately.

The war effort would require millions of people in the military and the active U.S. Army had only about 200,000 members. A draft act was passed in 1917 to obtain the necessary manpower and about 3.8 million men were drafted.

Out of a total U.S. population of almost 92 million people in 1910, 13.3 million were foreign-born; another 12.9 million had two foreign-born parents. Another group of almost 6 million had one foreign born parent.

From this, it can be seen that one-third of the total population were recent immigrants, greatly increasing the likelihood that many had little or no skill in English. This was born out by the experiences of U.S. military personnel at induction centers and training camps. Thousands of draftees, from all over the world, including Spain and Mexico, were found to have insufficient skill in English to complete the training.

The exigencies of the war in Europe necessitated the speedy induction and training of men for shipment to the front. Those with no or limited ability in English were relegated to development battalions at the training centers. For weeks these men were given little or no attention. They grew discontented, restless, sullen, and resentful of their situation.

Eventually, some 4,000 of these non-English speaking men were gathered at Camp Gordon, Georgia. Many were relegated to menial jobs and to ridicule by

their English-speaking brethren. Most wanted to get out of the military.

Eventually, someone discovered that the language barrier was the principal cause of their problem. After rudimentary interviews, the men were separated into language groups and officers who could speak their native tongue were identified. Once communication was established, many useful skills were discerned, including previous military experience in the countries of their birth.

Training then progressed in the native tongue of the draftees. This training, then known as the "Camp Gordon Plan," was extended to seven other military posts. Most Hispanic draftees were at Camp Cody, New Mexico, for training.

In the time it took to discern the problem, design the "Camp Gordon Plan" remedy, and begin to train the non-English speaking soldiers, the war was nearing an end. The training took too long and few saw combat as a result.

Hispanics in Combat

From scattered records, we do know that Hispanic Americans fought in World War I. Nicolas Lucero, a nineteen-year-old from Albuquerque, New Mexico, received the French Croix de Guerre for destroying two German machine gun emplacements and for keeping a constant fire on the enemy positions for over 3 hours.

In another incident, Marcelino Serna, a Hispanic, enlisted in the Army and was sent to fight in the frontline trenches of France. On September 12, 1918, the U.S. First Army launched an offensive to crash through the St. Mihiel salient near the French-German border. That same day, Private Serna shot at a German soldier opposite him in the trenches. The German was wounded but still managed to

return Serna's fire, grazing him slightly on the head.

Following a trail of blood, Serna tracked the wounded enemy soldier to a dugout. He paused a moment, then tossed a concussion grenade into the enclosure. To his surprise, not one but 24 Germans came out. As Marcelino was attempting to seek help to detain these prisoners, a young American soldier approached him and attempted to kill the prisoners. Marcelino informed the young soldier that if he wanted to shoot the enemy he should go find some further north of the trenches. He also told him that it was against the rules of war to kill prisoners.

For this feat, Serna was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. For later actions, he was also decorated with the French Croix de Guerre, the Victory Medal with three bars, and the Purple Heart twice. Although seemingly eligible for the U.S. Medal of Honor, he was told by an officer that to be so honored one had to be of a higher rank than a "buck" private, and that he could not be advanced to a higher grade because he could not read or write English well enough to sign reports.

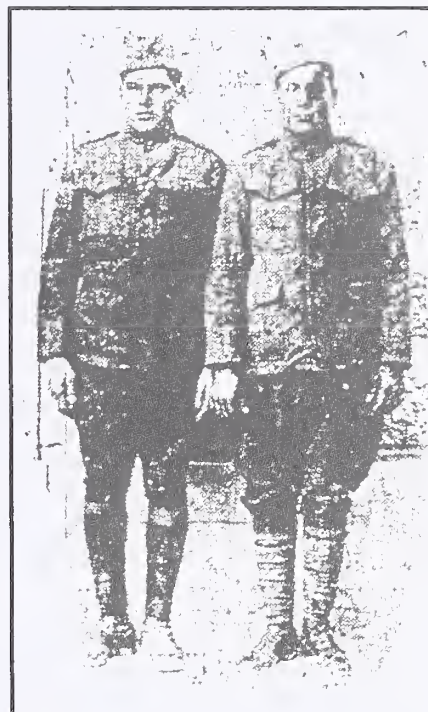


Marcelino Serna

The Mexican-American veteran of World War I proudly displays his medals in a photograph taken several years after the war.

The faded, blurred newspaper photograph reproduced below is captioned:

"Federico Nolina, son of Mr. Micolás Nolina, resident of this city, R.D.F. No. 7; at right, a friend of the young Mexican-Texan. They are seen here in one of regiments that left San Antonio just a short time ago for France and they are going to take part in the struggle against the enemies of democracy."



Hispanic Soldiers

Federico Molina and a friend pose in France during World War I. The photo is reproduced from an old newspaper.

Although these reference are scattered, they are illustrative of the many unrecognized efforts by Hispanics to contribute to the war effort. In another instance, a Senator from New Mexico published in the Congressional Record an honor role of New Mexican Hispanics killed in France during World War I. He named the following:

Thomas Herrera, Leopoldo Carbajal, Alfredo Moya, Manuel Ortega, Porfirio Peno, Alonso Aragon, Donaciano Martinez, Andres Garcia, Desiderio Vigil, Manuel Chavez, Atonicio Garcia; Jose Mario Pena, Pedro Romero, Gilberto Wohlgemuth, Alberto Carbajal, Cadelario Cardon, Cosme Gallegos, Silvio Gonzalez, Maximiliano Cardenas, Luis Moya, Luis E. Mares, Cipriano Martinez, Francisco O. Lucero. As we can see by the names from New Mexico, Hispanics were indeed among the valiant who died in defense of this country in World War I.

Mexican-Texans going to France to fight in 1918 sang the following song:

"Registration 1918"

The cards arrived
at home for each one
verifying the registration
those twenty-one to thirty-one.

Good bye Laredo highlighted
by your towers and bells
but we shall never forget
your beautiful Mexican women.

They are taking us to fight
to some distant land
and taking us to fight
the German troops.

They are taking us to fight
in distinct directions
and taking us to fight
with different nations.

How far is the journey
over the waves
great will be my pleasure
if I will triumph.

When I was fighting
I would remember everybody
and more of my poor mother
that cried so much for me.

Good bye dear parents
and the lady I love
when we are in France
a sigh we will send you.

Good bye Laredo highlighted
by your towers and bells
but we shall never forget
your beautiful Mexican women.

We cannot say with any certainty how many Hispanics served in U.S. forces during World War I. There can be little doubt, however, that many did

serve—and with honor. We should not allow their sacrifices to be lost in the blurred pages of history.

2. Registro de 1918

Les cayeron sus tarjetas
al domicilio a cada uno,
se verificó el registro
del veintiuno al treinta y uno.

Adiós Laredo lucido
con sus torres y campanas,
pero nunca olvidaremos
a tus lindas mexicanas.

Ya nos llevan a pelear
a unas tierras muy lejanas
y nos llevan a pelear
con las tropas alemanas.

Ya nos llevan a pelear
a distintas direcciones,
y nos llevan a pelear
con diferentes naciones.

¡Qué lejos es la travesía
sobre las olas del mar!
Grande fuera mi alegría
si llegare yo a triunfar.

Cuando andaba yo peleando
de toditos me acordaba,
y más de mi pobre madre
que por mí tanto lloraba

Adiós mis queridos padres
y la joven a quien yo amo,
ya cuando estemos en Francia
un suspiro les mandamos.

Adiós Laredo lucido
con sus torres y campanas,
pero nunca olvidaremos
a tus lindas mexicanas.

Registration 1918

The music and words in Spanish from this popular World War I song.

World War II (1941–1945)

Introduction

It has been estimated that anywhere from 250,000 to 500,000 Hispanics served in the armed forces during World War II. This represents a range of 2.5 to 5 percent of all persons who served during the war. Figures are imprecise because, with the exception of Puerto Ricans, data on Hispanics were not maintained. We do know that over 53,000 Puerto Ricans served during the period 1940–1946.

National Guard units from Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California had a high representation of Mexican Americans. With the exception of the 65th Infantry regiment from Puerto Rico, Hispanics were not in segregated units. Approximately 200 Puerto Rican women served in the Women's Army Corps.

The Hispanic participation in the war effort is difficult to separate from the overall efforts of all the men and women who served in our armed forces. Those whose accomplishments we highlight below should be considered representative of Hispanic contributions to the war effort.

Bataan

World War II began for most Americans on December 7, 1941, when Japanese aircraft attacked Pearl Harbor. The war had been in full swing for 2 years in Europe—and for 4 years in Asia.

Although the Pearl Harbor attack was unexpected, preparations for an eventual war had begun earlier. As part of the troop movement to bolster the defense of the Philippines, the 200th and 515th Coast Artillery (Anti-Aircraft) were sent to stations around Clark Field near Manila. Both units were from the New Mexico National Guard and had a heavy representation of Hispanic officers and enlisted men. They had been selected because many of the men in the unit spoke Spanish, a principal language of the Philippines. Upon their arrival, they became the largest single American military unit in the Philippines. Most of the 140,000 defenders of the island were members of the Philippine Army (100,000).

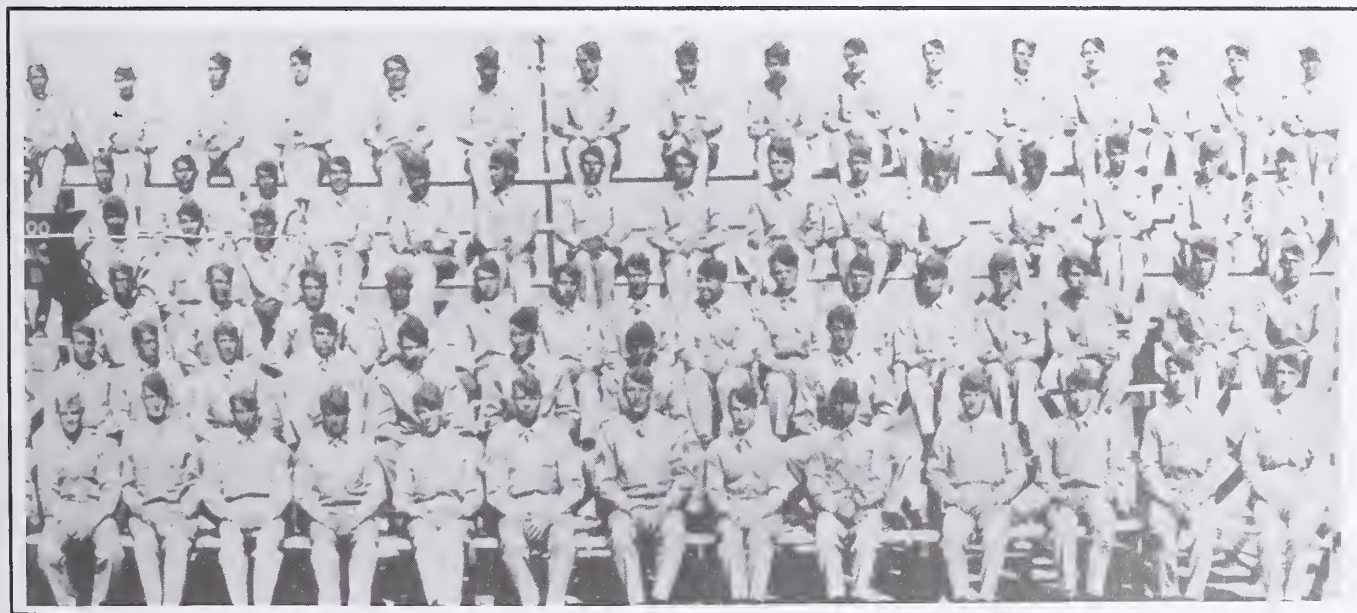
The Japanese bombed Clark Field on December 8, 1941, and Sgt. Felipe N. Trejo of Santa Fe, New Mexico and Epimenio Rubi of Winslow, Arizona were

among the first American casualties. The Japanese followed this attack with a troop landing on the northern coast of Luzon on December 10. They drove steadily south toward Manila. General MacArthur, who commanded all units in the Philippines, realized that he could not defend the entire island.

While holding back the Japanese as best as possible, he consolidated his remaining forces on the Bataan Peninsula which jutted out into the South China Sea west of Manila to form Manila Bay. Just off the tip of Bataan was the island of Corregidor which guarded the mouth of the bay. MacArthur put his headquarters on the island.

Despite desperate fighting, the Japanese pushed the American forces down the peninsula, successively breaking through four defensive lines.

On April 9, 1942, General Edward P. King was forced to surrender with 36,000 of his troops. General Wainwright retreated to Corregidor where he and the remaining forces held out for another month, finally capitulating on May 8, 1942.



200th Coast Artillery (Anti-aircraft)

Some of the officers and men of Battery B, 200th Coast Artillery (AA), pose in 1941, after being inducted into the U.S. Army.

The Japanese were ill-prepared to handle the approximately 16,000 prisoners whom they collected on Bataan. Lacking transportation or supplies, they forced their prisoners to march north, back up the Bataan Peninsula, some 85 miles to prison camps. During the 12-day "death march" many prisoners died from Japanese mistreatment; less than 10,000 survived the march.

Once in prisoners of war camps, brutality, disease, and malnutrition further reduced the prisoners' numbers. A Hispanic American survivor, J.G. Lucero of New Mexico, kept a weight chart and cartoons drawn by prisoners as a reminder of his ordeal.



Philippine Invasion, 1941-1942

Japanese troops celebrate the capture of an American position on Orion during the final offensive on Bataan in April 1942.

Courtesy of Dr. Diosdada M. Yap, Editor-Publisher Bataan Magazine, Washington, D.C. U.S. Naval History Photograph NH 73536



Captured American and Filipino Troops After the Surrender on Corregidor

The 11,500 surviving troops became prisoners of war and on May 28, 1942, were evacuated to a prison stockade in Manila. The picture is reproduced from an illustration which appeared in a captured Japanese publication.



Survivors of Japanese Prisoner of War Camps

Mr. Adolfo Garduno (left) from Las Vegas, New Mexico was one of the Hispanic survivors captured on Bataan.

North Africa

On November 8, 1942, American forces assumed the offensive and landed on the coast of North Africa at Oran. Hispanics from National Guard units in the southwest were a part of the 1st and 3rd Infantry Divisions as well as the 2nd Armored Division.

Aleutians

The American invasion of the Aleutian Islands in May 1943 was intended to protect Alaska from Japanese invasion. The fighting there produced the first Hispanic Medal of Honor recipient of World War II—Private Jose P. Martinez.

Born in Taos, New Mexico in 1920, Martinez was one of nine children. He moved with his family to Ault, Colorado in 1927 where his father found work as an agricultural laborer. He was drafted in August 1942 and took his basic training at Camp Roberts, California. After training he was assigned to a unit in the 7th Infantry Division.

On May 11, 1943, Martinez landed on Red Beach with his unit at Holtz Bay, Attu, the western most island on the Aleutian chain. During an attack by his unit 15 days after landing, Martinez' unit was pinned down by Japanese small arms, machine guns, and mortars. On his own initiative, Martinez jumped up and lead his platoon in the assault. Others followed his example. When the attack faltered under withering fire, Martinez again leapt forward. On two separate occasions, he jumped into a trench among the Japanese defenders and drove them back. During the second episode, he was mortally wounded.

A Disabled American Veterans chapter in Colorado and an American Legion post in California are named in his honor. He became an inspiration to many Hispanics in and out of uniform when the Army released his story.

The Mediterranean

On July 10, 1943, the U.S. Seventh Army under General Patton and the British Eighth Army under General Montgomery landed on the southeast coast of Sicily in the early morning hours. This started the Allied attempt to regain control of the Mediterranean, knocking Italy out of the war. In just over a month, the campaign was completed and plans were initiated for the invasion of Italy.

Initially, the U.S. Fifth Army was to land near Naples (Operation Avalanche) and the British on the toe of Italy across from Sicily (Operation Baytown). On September 3, 1943, the British Army moved across the Strait of Messina to the Italian mainland. On September 9, the American Fifth Army hit the beach at Salerno. By the end of the day, the initial beachhead was secured.

One of the units of the Fifth Army was the 36th Infantry (T-Patcher) Division from Texas. A unit of the 36th was the 141st Infantry Regiment, which traced its lineage to the 1st and 2nd Texas Volunteers in the Texas Revolution of 1836. A large number of Hispanics served in the 36th, and particularly in the 141st. Company E of the 141st had a high concentration of Hispanics. The action was heavy at Salerno and E Company had its share.

One historian, Robert Wagner, described it this way in his book, *The Texas Army*:

"The 2nd Battalion of the 141st, landing fifty minutes late, passed through rear elements of 3rd Battalion and proceeded along the 3rd's left flank toward its objective. Companies "E" and "F" pressed inland until halted by eight German tanks running back and forth across both company fronts. The tanks inflicted numerous casualties with their machine guns until they were forced to retreat by the effects of infantry weapons alone. In this fight Corporal Benito G. Dominguez of Sequin, Texas, knocked out an enemy half-track

with a rifle grenade. Private Raymond G. Gutierrez of Sonora, Texas, moved forward firing his BAR (Browning Automatic Rifle). Two enemy bullets pierced his helmet but failed to touch him. The third caught him in the arm. He continued to advance, located the enemy machine gun, closed in on it, and knifed the German gunner to death. First Sergeant Gabriel L. Navarette from El Paso, Texas, had been given the mission of determining local enemy strength and in so doing was wounded in the hand by German machine gunfire as he attempted to operate a signal projector. A member of Navarette's patrol, Private First Class Alfredo P. Ruiz, also from El Paso, approached so close that he was caught in the camouflage of brush used by the Germans and was pulled about ten yards before he was able to break loose."

The men of the 141st experienced 361 days of combat in World War II: 137 days in Italy, 204 in France, 17 in Germany, and 4 in Austria. They sustained over 6,000 casualties; including 1,126 killed, 5,000 wounded, and over 500 missing in action. In recognition of their extended service and valor, despite significant casualties, members of the 141st garnered 3 Medals of Honor, 31 Distinguished Service Crosses, 12 Legions of Merit, 492 Silver Stars, 11 Soldier's Medals, 1,685 Bronze Stars, and numerous commendations and decorations.



Unit Insignia of the 141st Infantry

The 142nd Infantry, sister regiment of the 141st, also had a number of Hispanics in its ranks scattered among each of its companies. They too had their Hispanic heroes; among them Sergeant Manuel S. Gonzales from Fort Davis, Texas. Soon after landing at Salerno, Sergeant Gonzales located the position of a German 88 mm gun which was placing effective fire on U.S. landing craft struggling for shore. He moved toward the gun but was spotted by the Germans who fired at him with a machine gun. Tracers from the Germans gun set Gonzales' field pack afire on his back but he continued to advance. When he had gotten close enough, he threw hand grenades at the German gun and crew. The Germans threw their own grenades at Gonzales. Though wounded, Gonzales continued the attack until he had killed the entire crew and had blown up their ammunition. For his courage, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.



Staff Sergeant Manual Gonzales

He won the Distinguished Service Cross for his bravery in attacking a German 88mm gun crew during the American landing at Salerno during World War II.

Europe

Hispanics served in a large number of U.S. units during the fighting in Europe. Among the units with Hispanic representation were: the 30th Infantry regiment, 3rd Infantry Division in which S/Sgt Lucian Adams of Port Arthur, Texas, was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions on October 28, 1944, near St. Die, France; the 313th Infantry Regiment, 79th Infantry Division which landed at Utah Beach in Normandy and fought its way through St. Lo, France, and across the Seine River; 22nd Infantry Regiment, 4th infantry Division in which S/Sgt. Macario Garcia of Sugarland, Texas, was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions November 20, 1944, near Grosshau, Germany; 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division in which Sgt. Jose M. Lopez received a Medal of Honor on December 7, 1944, for his actions near Krinkelt, Belgium; 7th Infantry regiment, 3d Infantry Division in which Private Jose F. Valdez of Governador, New Mexico, was awarded the Medal of Honor for his bravery on January 25, 1945, near Rosenkrantz, France; 142nd Infantry Regiment, 36th Infantry Division in which Pfc. Silverstre S. Herrera of Phoenix, Arizona, received the Medal of Honor for his action near Mertzwiller, France, on March 15, 1945; and the 65th Infantry Regiment, an all-Hispanic unit from Puerto Rico, which saw service in Germany and Central Europe.

Noncombatants

During wartime, public attention generally focuses upon the people who do the shooting, shelling, and bombing. Combat troops, however, constitute a relatively small percentage of people in uniform and engaged in war-related activities. Often under extreme hardship, medical, transportation, and quartermaster personnel provide supplies, equipment, and life-saving services. Hispanic Americans made outstanding contributions in these units.

One such noncombatant unit was the 713th Railway Operating Battalion of the Military Railway Service. The 713th, or "Santa Fe Battalion," was formed at Camp Clovis, New Mexico, on March 12, 1942. Its members were experienced railway personnel who had been inducted to clear, repair, and build military railways and to operate the trains which moved vital supplies to the front line troops. Although they did not experience direct combat, they were subject to enemy bombing and shelling in addition to the occupational hazards and dangerous climatic conditions associated with railway work.

After receiving military training, the 713th left New Mexico on January 21, 1943, for Fort Dix, New Jersey, and shipment to North Africa. On February 19, 1943, the unit landed at Casablanca in Morocco. From February through September 1943, the 713th operated trains, cleared and repaired track, and built new track all along the North African coast from Casablanca, Morocco; to Ovan, Setif, and Tebessa, Algeria; to Sbeitla and Sousse, Tunisia.

From February to May 1943, the 713th transported over 500,000 tons in 47,255 cars by rail. They provided the bulk of the rail supply to the American 2nd Corps and the British 1st and 8th Armies which insured a victory for the Allies in North Africa.

Later in the war, the 713th moved to Italy from October 1943 to June 1944, to Southern France in September 1944, and up to Western Germany in early 1945.

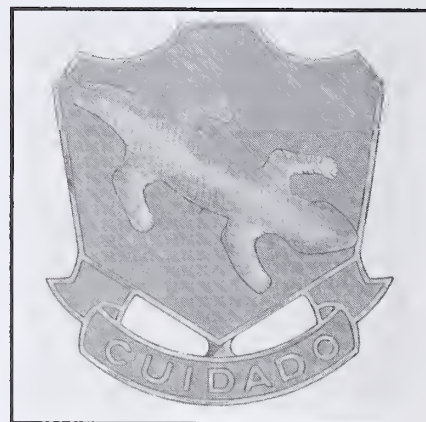
Most of the Hispanics in the 713th were assigned to Company A, which was responsible for repairing existing railway systems and laying new track. Among the Hispanic members were Eulogio Chavez, Lionzo Chavez, Juan Comejo, Charles Fernandez, Hilario Flores, Jose Gonzales, Jose Martinez, Luz Martinez, Joe Padilla, John Salas, Christmas Tapparo, and George Vas-

sios. Their unsung contributions to the war effort should not be forgotten.

The Pacific

The fighting in the Pacific had its share of Hispanic heroes. The 158th Regimental Combat Team (an Arizona National Guard unit) was organized originally as the 1st Arizona Volunteer Infantry in late 1865. Some of its first companies were comprised principally of Maricopa and Pima Indians who participated several campaigns against the Apache. It was during this period that the unit adopted as their motto "Cuidado," a Spanish word meaning "take care."

During World War II, the unit was called into Federal service on September 16, 1940, and sent to Fort Sill, Oklahoma, for training. In February 1941, the 158th was moved to Camp Barkley, Texas, for more training and then to maneuvers in Louisiana.



Unit Insignia of the 158th Infantry

When war became a reality on December 7, the 158th found itself en-route to Panama for jungle training and to guard the Panama Canal Zone. It was there that they adopted the deadly Bushmaster snake for their insignia. In January 1943, the unit was on the move again—to Brisbane, Australia, where it became part of the U.S. Sixth Army.

From Australia, the 158th was committed to combat at Milne Bay, Kiriwina Island, Port Moresby, and Arawe (all in New Guinea) during 1943; at Wake and Noemfoor Islands in New Guinea during 1944; at Lingayen Gulf, Batangas, and Legaspi, Luzon in the Philippines during 1945; and finally to Yokohama, Japan, for occupation duty.

The 158th was one of the first U.S. units to see combat in the Pacific and was referred to as "the greatest fighting combat team ever deployed for battle" by General Douglas MacArthur. Among other units with Hispanic representation were: the 148th Infantry Regiment, 37th Infantry Division in which Private Cleto Rodriguez of San Antonio, Texas, received the Medal of Honor on February 9, 1945, for personally killing 82 Japanese soldiers near Manila in the Philippines; the 511th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 11th Airborne Division in which PFC Manuel Perez of Chicago, Illinois, was awarded the Medal of Honor on February 13, 1945, for destroying 11 Japanese pillboxes on Luzon in the Philippines; the 127th Infantry Regiment, 32d Infantry Division in which S/Sgt. Ismael Villegas and PFC David Gonzales each received the Medal of Honor for their actions on the Villa Verde Trail in Luzon during March and April 1945; and the 165th Infantry Regiment, 27th Infantry Division in which Sgt Alejandro Ruiz from Loving, New Mexico, received the Medal of Honor on April 28, 1945, for his bravery on Okinawa.



Technical Sergeant Cleto Rodriguez

This rendition of the Medal of Honor recipient's actions in the Philippine Islands (1945) was done by Henry Lozano. The painting is part of the Army's American War Life Collection.

U.S. Army Photograph CC 105121



"Cuidado"—Take Care—Bushmaster with Bolo!

Cries of "Banzai" rang through the snake infested jungles while the staccato of enemy machine guns, mortars, and rifles rolled. The bayonet charges were suicidal but the 158th Regimental Combat Team, the "Bushmasters," repulsed the enemy and advanced. It fought day after day in critical battles to open the Visayan passages for allied shipping in the Pacific. The merciless campaign lasted 2 months in terrain laced with tank traps, wire, mines, and bamboo thickets.

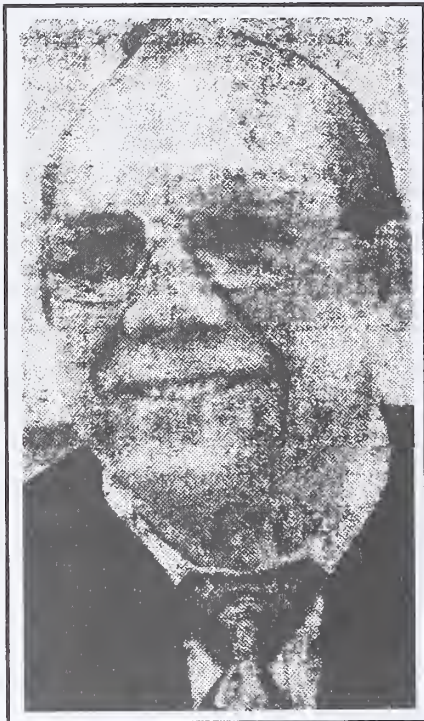
Painting by H. Charles McBarron taken from the "Army in Action Series" and included in the "National Guard Heritage Series."



Private First Class Manuel Perez

Perez, a member of the 511th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 11th Airborne Division, received the Medal of Honor for destroying 11 Japanese pillboxes on Luzon in the Philippines.

In addition, John G. Benavides served as an intelligence officer with the famed 25th Fighter Squadron, 14th U.S. Air Force (the "Flying Tigers") in China under General Claire Chennault. After the war he became a district attorney and was appointed eventually as the first Hispanic district judge in Bexar County, Texas, on October 1, 1969. He died in June 1982 and was buried with full military honors at Fort Sam Houston.



John G. Benavides

Former intelligence officer with the 25th Fighter Squadron, 14th U.S. Air Force (the "Flying Tigers") and district judge in Bexar County Texas. He died in June 1982.

Not all Hispanics served in the Army during the Pacific fighting. On Saipan and Tinian, Mariana Islands, South Pacific in the summer of 1944, Marine PFC Guy "Gabby" Gabaldon distinguished himself by singlehandedly capturing over 1,000 Japanese. He has the distinction of capturing more enemy soldiers than anyone else in the history of military conflicts of the U.S. Born in Los Angeles, he was adopted by a Japanese American family, who taught him Japanese. When war broke out with Japan, his two

"brothers" joined the U.S. armed forces in Europe and his foster parents and sister were sent to a relocation center.

After recruit training, Gabaldon qualified as a mortar crewman, Japanese translator, and scout observer. He then received amphibious training, and was sent to Saipan on June 15, 1944. While serving as a Japanese interpreter, he received a Silver Star. His citation read in part, "...PFC Gabaldon entered enemy positions in caves, pillboxes, buildings and jungle brush and, in the face of direct enemy fire, obtained vital information and aided in the capture of over one thousand enemy civilians and enemy personnel. Working alone in front of the lines, he contributed materially to the success of the campaign and through his efforts, a definite humane treatment of prisoners was insured...." The weakened Japanese soldiers had been commanded to fight to the last man by their officers, but Gabaldon persuaded them to surrender.



Private First Class Guy Gabaldon

This Hispanic Marine received the Silver Star for actions performed on Saipan in 1944 when he aided in the capture of over 1,000 enemy civilians and soldiers.

Twice wounded, he was evacuated to the United States Hospital at Ocean-side, California. After the war, Mr. Gabaldon appeared as a guest on the NBC Television Show, "This is Your Life" in June 1957, and a movie depicting his exploits entitled, "From Hell to Eternity," appeared in 1960.

His Silver Star was elevated to a Navy Cross, this country's second highest Navy award for valor, on December 20, 1960.

A little recognized contribution by Hispanics to the war in the Pacific was that made by the 201st Mexican Fighter Squadron (201 Escuadron de Caza).

On June 11, 1942, Mexico declared war on the Axis powers and made plans for the organization of the 201st Fighter Squadron. A select group of pilots from all walks of life were inducted into the squadron. Most had received initial flight training in Mexico or the United States. They were then sent for orientation flight training at Pocatello Army Air Base, Idaho, and trained as a P-47 fighter squadron, with 35 officers and 300 enlisted men.

The squadron finished all phases of its training by early March 1945 with a superior record. The 201st Mexican Fighter Squadron was attached to the 58th Fighter Group (P-47) in the Philippines. There they began combat operations in June 1945. Considering that the 201st was new to combat, their record compares favorably with that of the veteran pilots of the 58th Fighter Group.

They participated in bombing missions in Formosa and supported troops from the 25th Division with bombing and strafing missions. From June 1 to July 10, 1945, the 201st: (1) flew 50 missions and 293 sorties; (2) dropped 181 tons of bombs; and (3) fired 104,000 rounds of ammunition. Seven pilots were killed in action.

On Veteran's Day, Carlos Foustinos, a former member of the squadron, flies a Mexican flag in his home instead of "Old Glory." This flag is flown in commemoration of the men of the 201st Mexican Fighter Squadron who fought and died in aerial combat along with Americans in the South Pacific. Faustinos flew approximately 25 missions, recording 6 Japanese zero kills. This feat brought him the distinction of a flying ace and he was awarded the "La Cruz de Honor" (The Cross of Honor), which is equivalent to the U.S. Medal of Honor, by the Mexican government.

Another unsung Hispanic hero of World War II is Gerard Rodriguez. His military career began during World War II, but spanned three major conflicts in 38 years. Born in Andorra, a small country in the Pyrenees Mountains between France and Spain, Rodriguez experienced war at the early age of 13 when the Spanish Civil War engulfed his homeland. After the death of his parents, he hiked across France and got a job as a cabin boy on a ship going to the United States. He became a citizen in 1940 and joined the Army.



Gerard Rodriguez

On the march with Merrill's Marauders. Rodriguez (second from right) walked through the jungles of Burma to join Stilwell's Chinese units in World War II.

Rodriguez was assigned to the 3d Cavalry, but when his unit was mechanized he volunteered to join the 5307th Composite Group which was soon to gain fame as "Merrill's Marauders." The 5307th was the first U.S. long-range penetration group and was modeled after the British Chindits under General Orde Wingate.

In 1943, the 5307th arrived in India and after training with Wingate's forces moved into the jungle of Burma, behind Japanese lines. Rodriguez was assigned to the Intelligence and Reconnaissance platoon. The 5307th marched over 600 miles in performing their mission, living off the land and occasional drops of airborne supplies. They fought several major battles and were instrumental in preventing a Japanese invasion of India.

Throughout the length of their mission, they were hunted by Japanese troops and suffered from extreme hardships caused by the weather and terrain.

When the war ended, Rodriguez moved to Wichita, Kansas, where he first joined the Army National Guard and then the Army Reserve. During his Reserve tour, he served in the Special Forces and the

U.S. Bicentennial Color Guard, eventually being promoted to Master Sergeant. He became a member of the 5048th U.S. Army Reserve Noncommissioned Officer Academy when he could no longer participate in parachute jumps with the Special Forces. In mid-1981, having been promoted to Sergeant Major, he retired. He is believed to have been the last of "Merrill's Marauders" to leave active duty.

Korean Conflict (1950-1953)

The Korean Conflict saw many Hispanic Americans again respond to the call of duty. They served with distinction in all of the Services. Many Hispanic Americans chose to serve in combat units like the Marines and paratroopers; much like their brothers, cousins, and friends had done in World War II.

Many Mexican Americans from barrios in Los Angeles, San Antonio, Laredo, Phoenix, and Chicago saw fierce action in Korea. Fighting in almost every combat unit in Korea, they distinguished themselves through courage and bravery as they had in previous wars.



Sergeant Major Gerard Rodriguez
on his retirement in 1981.

Nine Hispanics received the Congressional Medal of Honor for heroism in the Korean Conflict. Their actions are summarized in the Medal of Honor section of this booklet.

There was one all-Hispanic unit to serve in Korea—the Puerto Rican 65th Infantry Regiment. The unit was initially constituted on March 2, 1899, as the Puerto Rico Regiment of Volunteer Infantry. One battalion was stationed in San Juan and the second battalion, a mounted unit, was stationed at Henry Barracks.

The 65th saw heavy and extensive service in Korea when it arrived at Pusan on September 20, 1950. Over the next 3 years, it participated in nine major campaigns, earning a Presidential Unit Citation, a Meritorious Unit Commendation, and two Republic of Korea Unit Citations.

Individual members of the unit were awarded 4 Distinguished Service Crosses and 124 Silver Stars. They were also credited with capturing 2,086 enemy soldiers and killing 5,905.



Unit Insignia of the 65th Infantry



The 65th in Korea

Chinese communist soldiers captured by the 1st Platoon, Company C, 1st Battalion, 65th Infantry Regiment near Humhung in December 1950.



Korea, 1951

Battle weary soldiers of the 65th Infantry return to safety behind the lines after two days of being trapped north of the Han River in June 1951.



Korean Combat

Rifle crew of Company M, 3rd Battalion, 65th Infantry, with a 75mm recoilless rifle, guarding a valley north of Chorwan, June 14, 1951.

The ground fighting in Korea was conducted in some of the most mountainous terrain in the world and many of the bitterest battles occurred during the winter months, when the soldiers suffered from extremely cold temperatures, snow, and ice.

The Korean Conflict will also be remembered for the first large-scale use of jet aircraft in wartime. The German Air Force had introduced the first jets late in World War II, but the war ended before they could make a significant contribution. Toward the end of the Korean Conflict, Chinese Communist forces introduced the MIG-15 jet fighter; the U.S. Air Force responded with the F-86 "Sabrejet." Of 839 MIG-15s shot down, 800 were downed by Sabrejets. The Communists were only able to shoot down 58 F-86s. Air-to-air engagements at 40,000 feet soon became commonplace in Korea and a new breed of pilot was born—the jet ace.



Colonel Manuel J. Fernandez, Jr.

Captain Manuel J. Fernandez, Jr. was assigned to the 334th Squadron, 4th Fighter-Interceptor Wing. From September 1952 to May 1953, he flew 125 combat missions in the F-86. On

most of those missions, his job was to locate and destroy Communist MIG's in the air.

His first victory took place on October 4, 1952. On his fifth victory, he became an "ace" and he ended the war with 14.5 "kills" to his credit, making him the third ranking MIG killer of the entire war. His 14.5 air victories also placed him 60th among the top U.S. Air Force aces of World War I, World War II, and the Korean Conflict combined.

After the war, while flying an F-100C, "Super Sabre," he set a new world record by attaining an average speed of 666.661 mph in the Bendix Trophy Race of September 1956. He retired after achieving the rank of Colonel in the U.S. Air Force.

Hero Street, U.S.A.

In Silvis, Illinois, just west of Chicago, stands a monument to eight heroes of Mexican-American descent who gave their lives in defense of this nation. The monument is a street once named Second Street, now renamed Hero Street U.S.A.

It is not much of a street in size—just one and a half blocks long. The street is muddy with rain in the spring, slick with snow in the winter, and hazy with dust in the summer. Joe Gomez (who earned a Silver Star), Peter Masias, Johnny Munos, Tony Pompa, Frank Sandoval, Joseph Sandoval, William Sandoval, and Claro Soliz grew up together on this small street in a very close-knit environment working for the railroad, as did their fathers

who came from Mexico years before. They went to war without hesitation, even though their streets were not paved and the citizens of Silvis chose to ignore the docile, hard-working Mexicans on the edge of town. They never came back.

The men from the 22 families on this block who participated in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam totals 84. In World War II and Korea, 57 men went from this street. The two Sandoval families sent 13: 6 from one family; 7 from the other. Three Sandoval sons did not come back. This street reportedly contributed more men to military service in two wars—World War II and Korea—than any other place of comparable size in the United States. Hero Street U.S.A. stands alone in American military history.



Hero Street, U.S.A.

Corner of 1st Avenue and 2nd Street, Silvis, Illinois



The Men from Hero Street

From left to right, top row, William Sandoval, Johnny Munos, Joseph Sandoval, Peter Masias. Bottom row, from left to right, Tony Pompa, Joseph Gomez, Claro Soliz, Frank Sandoval.

Vietnam Era (1960–1973)

Introduction

In February 1950, the United States granted political recognition to Vietnam as a quasi-independent state within the French Union. Prior to World War II, the entire Indochina area had been under French colonial administration. During the war, Japanese troops had occupied the area and from 1945–1950, France pursued a course of reestablishing its authority.

By May of 1950, the United States had begun to provide military and economic aid to the French. The French Army was engaged in a military conflict against nationalist and communist forces who had provided armed resistance to the Japanese occupation, but were now combating the French return. After 4 years of fighting, the French Army was defeated by the Viet Minh (a Communist-supported organization) at the battle of Dien Bien Phu in May 1954.

During the French struggle against the Viet Minh, the United States created the first Special Forces unit on June 20, 1952. Special Forces were an outgrowth from the World War II commando and Special Service Force units. The mission of these elite units was to plan, conduct, and support unconventional warfare operation. As such, its members were capable of training, advising, and supporting guerrilla or antiguerrilla units in other countries.

In mid-1957, a U.S. Special Forces unit arrived in the Republic of Vietnam (the Southern half of Vietnam which had been partitioned by the 1954 peace agreement with France). In May of 1960, another Special Forces unit arrived in South Vietnam to train the Vietnamese Army, which was engaged in fighting a guerrilla war.

In November 1961, Special Forces medical units were sent to South Vietnam to provide assistance to Montagnard tribes. (Montagnards were an ethnic group living in the mountains of central South Vietnam.)

From 1961 to 1965, over 80 Special Forces camps were established as part of the U.S. supported Civilian Irregular Defense Group (CIDG) program. The CIDG program was intended to assist South Vietnamese minority groups in raising paramilitary forces to resist Communist guerrilla activity and to defend minority group villages. Each CIDG camp had a South Vietnamese Special Forces team, a U.S. Special Forces team, and from 2 to 7 companies of indigenous self-defense troops. Some camps also had a unit of Nung's (tribesmen from the mountains of North Vietnam who had been hired by the United States).

Each CIDG camp was intended to be a self-contained, fully independent organization capable of resisting Communist forces operating in the area. The U.S. Special Forces team was to advise the South Vietnamese, assist in camp administration, and prepare all persons for eventual turnover of the camp to South Vietnamese authorities.

Early Fighting

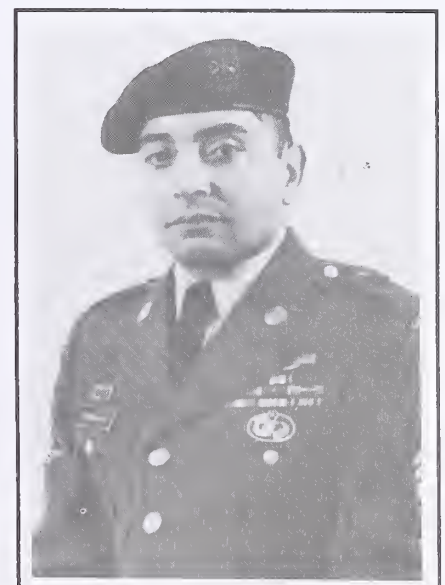
It did not take the Viet Cong (Vietnamese Communists) long to realize the purpose of the CIDG camps. Fighting picked up in volume as the Viet Cong probed for weaknesses and attacked several camps. Camp defense became a primary Special Forces concern as many early CIDG camps were not fortified.

In November 1963, a reinforced battalion of Viet Cong attacked the CIDG camp at Hiep Hoa, Long, a Province which had been opened in February 1963. It was night and the defenders in the camp were taken completely by surprise as heavy machine gun and

mortar fire raked the camp. Among the U.S. Special Forces personnel at Hiep Hoa was Sergeant First Class (SFC) Issac Camacho.

All the camp defenders were pinned down by the withering Viet Cong fire. SFC Camacho ran from his sleeping area to a mortar position and began to return fire. Pressure from the attacking force soon breached the camp's defensive wall and the commanding officer ordered a withdrawal. In the confusion of the battle and the darkness of the night, SFC Camacho became separated from his Special Forces compatriots and was captured by the Viet Cong.

SFC Camacho remained a prisoner for almost 20 months. On July 9, 1965, he was able to escape from his captors and make his way to freedom after crossing miles of Communist-infested territory. For his personal daring in the defense of Hiep Hoa and his successful escape, SFC Camacho was awarded the Silver Star and the Bronze Star Medal in September 1965. He was also promoted to Master Sergeant (MSG). Later, MSG Camacho was given a battlefield commission as a Captain. He has since retired from the Army and lives in El Paso, Texas.



Sergeant First Class Issac Camacho

Intermediate Fighting

In late 1963, Ngo Dinh Diem, President of South Vietnam, was killed in a military coup. A few weeks later, John F. Kennedy, President of the United States, was assassinated. Lyndon B. Johnson became President of the United States.

During this period, U.S. Special Forces in South Vietnam were increased and the CIDG program was expanded under the U.S. Military Assistance Command. Ships of the U.S. Navy also were put on patrol in the Gulf of Tonkin off the North Vietnamese Coast.

Late in the afternoon of August 2, 1964, the *USS Maddox*, a 3,300 ton destroyer, was attacked by three torpedo boats approaching from the north as it patrolled in the Gulf of Tonkin. The *Maddox* avoided three torpedoes which were fired at it as well as 37-millimeter gunfire from the torpedo boats. It returned fire and badly damaged one boat.

On August 3, 1964, the *Maddox* was joined by the *USS Turner Joy* and the two vessels resumed patrol. On August 4, the two vessels were attacked soon after sunset. Three to six North Vietnamese gunboats fired torpedoes and automatic cannons at the two U.S. destroyers. Two gunboats were sunk by the U.S. return fire.

In retaliation, two U.S. carriers in the area were authorized to launch 64 planes to attack North Vietnamese gunboat and oil storage facilities. Twenty-five torpedo boats were reported to have been sunk and most of 14 oil storage tanks destroyed by the raiders with a loss of two airplanes.

The pilot of one of the planes was killed; the other pilot, Lieutenant (jg) Everett Alvarez, Jr., jumped from his damaged plane but his parachute failed to open. He was picked up by a fishing boat and imprisoned by the North Vietnamese.



Ensign Everett Alvarez, Jr.

Ensign Alvarez receives his pilot wings from Capt. Ritt Mathew, USN, at the U.S. Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Kinsville, Texas on August 13, 1964.

U.S. Navy Photograph 1105043

Lt (jg) Alvarez was the first American and first Hispanic pilot to become a prisoner of war. He was born in Salina, California, and attended the University of Santa Clara, where he received a degree in electrical engineering. In 1960 he was commissioned in the Navy as an Ensign and had taken flight training at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Florida. He was 26 years old and newly married when his plane was shot down and he was captured.

Lt (jg) Alvarez remained a prisoner of war for almost 8 and one-half years, the longest confirmed POW in the Nation's history. In February 1973, he was repatriated by the North Vietnamese in the first group of prisoners as a result of the peace agreement negotiated in Paris. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and promoted to Lieutenant Commander. In March 1973, a city park in Santa Clara, California, was dedicated in his honor. He left the Navy soon thereafter, served as the Deputy Director for the Veterans Administration, and is now a private consultant.

The Final Years

In the mid-1960's, U.S. conventional troops entered South Vietnam. North Vietnamese regular forces became increasingly evident, and the war shifted into a conventional mode. The U.S. Air Force bombed North Vietnam as did the Navy flying from carriers off the North Vietnamese Coast. Peace negotiations were initiated in Paris and the war began to de-escalate by the early 1970's.

Hispanics served in all military units on the ground, in the air, and at sea. There were no all-Hispanic units and the military did not record separate data on Hispanic participation. Any analysis, therefore, is dependent upon an analysis of unit rosters to identify Hispanic surnames. Any results from such studies are incomplete due to improper identification.

In 1969, a study was released which examined Hispanic participation in the war by analyzing casualty figures for two periods: one from January 1961 to

February 1967, and the other from December 1967 to March 1969. The study revealed that for the two periods, 8,016 men from the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas had been killed. Of the number, over 19 percent had Hispanic surnames. The 1960 census indicated that Hispanics were only 11.8 percent of the total population in the 5 states and 13.8 percent of all military age males in those states.

Two areas of significant Hispanic population were omitted from this study: Florida and New York. But even those preliminary figures indicated the heavy investment Hispanic Americans made in the war effort and its inevitable cost to the Hispanic community. Casualties do not reflect the entire story, for many more people returned from Vietnam than died there. We should not forget the contributions made by the survivors either.



A P.O.W. Returns

In Hanoi, North Vietnam, Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Richard F. Abel (foreground), Public Relations Officer from Cleveland, Ohio, greets the first group of prisoners of war as the men wait for their name to be announced prior to their boarding a C141 Starlifter cargo transport at Gia Lap airport. Navy Lieutenant Commander Everett Alvarez, Jr., from Santa Clara, California, heads the line.



Lieutenant Commander Alvarez

On March 1, 1973, Alvarez spent 30 minutes answering questions for television and newspaper reporters at the Oakland, California Naval Hospital. He was the first man shot down over North Vietnam and was undergoing medical checks at the hospital after spending 8 and one-half years as a prisoner of war.

U.S. Navy Photograph K-98458



Santa Clara City Park

On March 25, 1973, Lieutenant Commander Everett Alvarez, Jr., spoke with people from his hometown of Santa Clara, California, as they dedicated a city park in his honor.

U.S. Navy Photograph K98928

The End

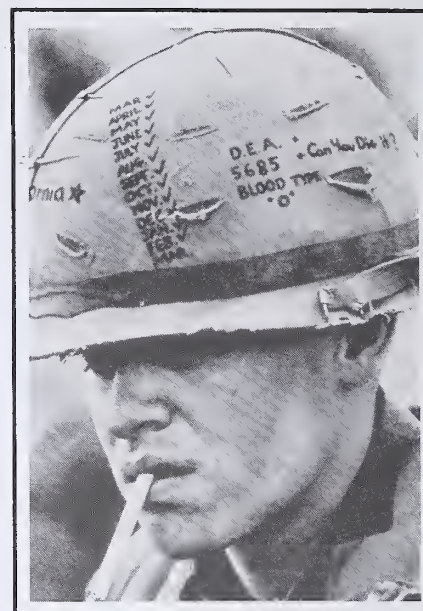
In September 1974, Master Sergeant (MSgt) Juan J. Valdez was transferred to the U.S. embassy in Saigon as the Noncommissioned Officer in charge (NCOIC) of the embassy's Marine Security Guard. He was 37 years old at the time and had been in the Marine Corps since May 1955.

MSgt Valdez had been in South Vietnam before from September 1967 to March 1970, when he had served as a platoon sergeant with the 3rd Amtracs.

At the embassy, he was responsible for the 45 Marines who guarded the embassy. During the final weeks of the war they helped to process persons leaving South Vietnam and to control crowds outside the embassy compound who also sought to leave.

On April 23, 1975, communist forces shelled the Bien Hoa Air Base near Saigon. By April 29, the air base was attacked by ground troops; Saigon was isolated.

A helicopter evacuation from the embassy itself was begun. The Marine Guards provided security for the helicopters while they were on the embassy roof. MSgt Valdez was on the last helicopter to leave on April 30, 1975, thus ending a 15-year saga in which Hispanics were among the first Americans to enter South Vietnam and among the last to leave—a truly notable and honorable record. Hispanic Americans have shown that if there is a theme to Hispanic participation in America's wars, it is: "First in...last to leave."



Lance Corporal Ernest Delgado, USMC

Corporal Delgado takes a break in the last month of his tour in Vietnam.

Post-Vietnam Era (1974–1989)

With the cessation of fighting in Vietnam, the inevitable post conflict draw downs occurred. Units were disbanded and reorganized. The All Volunteer Force was introduced and the Selective Service System reduced.

Peacetime equal opportunity programs were reinstituted and preconflict issues were addressed. A summary of major developments follows.

Equal Opportunity Training: An important element of the DoD Equal Opportunity Program is the Human/Race Relations Education Program. This program was formally established with the publication of the DoD Directive 1322.11, "Department of Defense Education in Race Relations for Armed Forces Personnel," dated June 23, 1971. It requires a matter of policy that an education program in race relations be conducted on a

continuing basis for all military personnel in an effort to improve and achieve equal opportunity within DoD and to eliminate and prevent racial tensions, unrest, and violence. The program was placed under the supervision of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs (now Force Management and Personnel).

The directive also established a Race Relations Education Board (RREB) with the mission of developing overall policy guidance for the DoD program of education in race relations. The original membership of the RREB included the Assistant Secretary for Manpower from each Military Department, a representative of each Military Service, and two Deputy Assistant Secretaries of Defense—Equal Opportunity and Reserve Affairs. The Board was, and still is, chaired by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Force Management and Personnel.

The directive established the Defense Race Relations Institute (DRRI) to train

Armed Forces personnel assigned as instructors in race relations. The DRRI was organized as a DoD field activity, attached to the Air Force (Patrick Air Force Base, Florida) for administrative and logistical support, and under the operational supervision of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower and Reserve Affairs). As with the overall DoD Race Relations Education Program, the DRRI was subject to the policy guidance of the RREB.

The primary focus of the program initially was to reduce racial tensions and violence, and achieve racial harmony. Throughout the Armed Forces, emphasis was placed on interpersonal relations at the small unit level. The program accommodated only active duty personnel. DRRI was charged with the development of a standard program of instruction for all Services, except the Marine Corps, which was excluded from the provisions of the directive. The Marine Corps had previously established a Human Relations Institute which was considered to be a parallel course toward achievement of the

DoD goal of harmonious relations among all military personnel.

In August 1973, the DoD directive was re-issued to extend its applicability to members of the National Guard and the Reserve. While the program continued to be called Race Relations Training Education, the scope was broadened at the Institute to include women in the military and ethnic/cultural awareness training such as Hispanic culture and anti-Semitism. For this reason, the name was expanded from Human/Race Relations Institute (DRRI) to Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI). These changes were not made for cosmetics purposes, but reflected a basic change in approach to equal opportunity and training as a result of detailed study. On December 23, 1988, the directive was replaced by DoD Directive 1350.2, Department of Defense Military Equal Opportunity Program.

Defense Equal Opportunity Management In, 1988, the distitute: After an extensive review of the race relations and equal opportunity programs in DoD, and an assessment of the training programs offered by the Institute, the Institute was reorganized in 1977-1978 and its mission was expanded. The curriculum has been revised to shift the focus from primarily individual forms of discrimination to the concern with both individual forms of discrimination and the more pervasive systemic and institutional forms of discrimination. With this broader focus, however, there has been no reduction in the amount of effort devoted to training personnel in race/human relations.

In addition to serving the active forces of the DoD, DEOMI recently implemented a course consisting of correspondence and resident phases to accommodate the scheduling needs of the National Guard and the Reserves.

Since the inception, DEOMI has trained over 6,000 race relations instructors and equal opportunity specialists for the Armed Forces and the United States Coast Guard.

Affirmative Action Plans and the DoD Budgetary Process: An Affirmative Action Plan (AAP) is a management plan which identifies equal opportunity problems and outlines the actions that the command will take to resolve or mitigate those problems. Affirmative actions which have major fiscal resource implications are now included in the DoD budget process. This is a major advancement for equal opportunity.

All of the Military Departments now report on 10 common subject areas as a part of their AAP's:

- Recruiting/Accessions
- Assignment
- Evaluation
- Training
- Promotion
- Discipline
- Separation
- Recognition
- Utilization of Skills
- Discrimination Complaints

Discrimination Complaints: Discrimination complaint procedures are published at every level, including the lowest command level. The procedures must be in writing and prominently displayed where all service members have open access to them. Further, personnel are instructed on the proper procedures to follow in filing discrimination complaints. Equally important, personnel must be assured that complaints can be initiated without fear of intimidation, reprisal, harassment, or embarrassment.

Equal Opportunity in Off-Base Housing Program: The Department of Defense supports Federal Fair Housing legislation through its Equal Opportunity in Off-Base Housing Pro-

gram. This program is designed to insure that DoD personnel have equal opportunity for available housing regardless of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

The goal of the program is achieved when a person who meets the ordinary standards of character and financial responsibility is able to obtain off-base housing in the same manner as any other person anywhere in the area surrounding the installation, without suffering refusal and humiliation because of discrimination.

Under the DoD Off-Base Housing Program each major installation has a Housing Referral Service (HRS) and maintains listing of available rental and sale property. For housing to be listed with the HRS, the agent for housing must give an assurance that the facility is available to all military personnel without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, or sex.

In the HRS, all military personnel are informed of the military's Fair Housing Program and are counseled on various methods that may be used by agents to discriminate against minorities and women. Personnel are also advised to immediately report any suspected act of discrimination to the Housing Referral Service.

The DoD program assigns responsibility and authority to commanders to investigate alleged discrimination complaints and impose 180-day restrictive sanctions against agents when discrimination complaints are valid.

The DoD Equal Opportunity in Off-Base Housing Program has gained a respected reputation by providing efficient and responsive service in a very sensitive and critical area to hundreds of thousands of military personnel worldwide.

Hispanics in the Active Force

Hispanic participation in the active force has remained generally static in the Post-Vietnam era, as the chart on the right shows. Hispanics now constitute 4.2 percent of all personnel on active duty; in 1971 that figure was 3.1 percent. In 1970, Hispanics constituted 4.5 percent of the total United States' population; in 1980, that figure had grown to 6.4 percent. In 1980, the Hispanic representation in the military age group of 20 to 44 was 3 percent. Currently, the Hispanic representation in the military age group of 20-44 is 3.8 percent. Hispanics constitute approximately 9.5 percent of the total U.S. population.

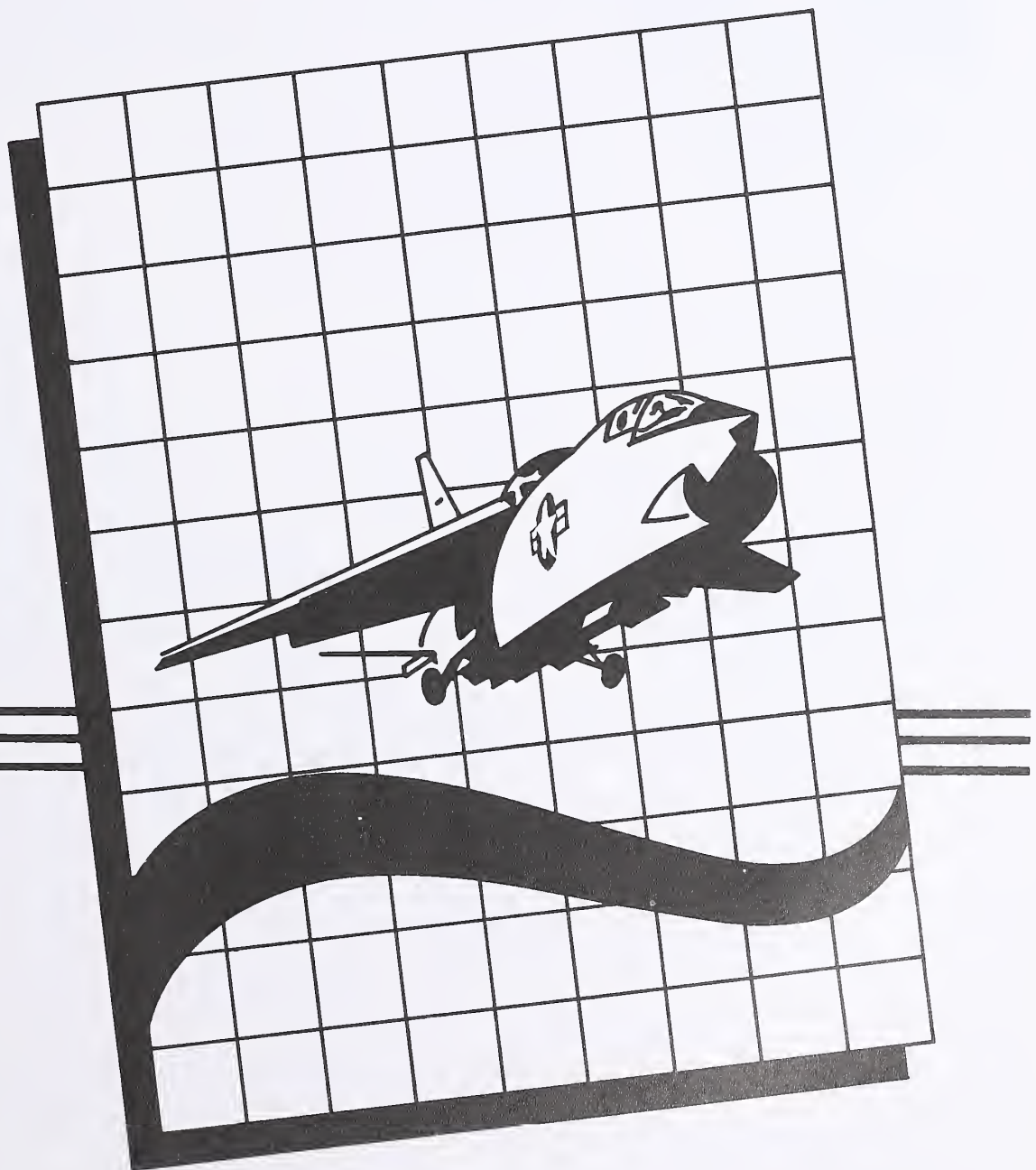
Table I
Hispanics in the Armed Forces

Year	Total Hispanic Officers	Hispanic % Of All Officers	Total Hispanic Enlisted	Hispanic % Of All Enlisted
1971	4,750	1.3	78,382	3.4
1972	4,152	1.2	78,736	4.0
1973	4,012	1.2	78,135	4.1
1974	4,032	1.3	81,739	4.4
1975	4,046	1.4	83,434	4.6
1976	3,858	1.4	81,887	4.6
1977	4,130	1.5	79,426	4.5
1978	4,242	1.5	77,654	4.4
1979	4,529	1.7	75,425	4.3
1980	3,176	1.1	70,506	4.0
1981	3,657	1.3	72,513	4.0
1982	3,832	1.3	72,809	4.0
1983	4,164	1.4	72,619	4.0
1984	4,484	1.5	71,877	3.9
1985	4,723	1.5	72,456	4.0
1986	5,227	1.7	73,110	4.0
1987	5,405	1.7	77,202	4.2
1988	4,857	1.8	72,478	4.4
1989	5,822	1.9	84,179	4.6

A Salute to Hispanic Fighter Aces

World War II and Korea

The term "Ace" has been used since World War I. It is used to designate a fighter pilot who destroys five or more enemy aircraft in aerial combat. The term originated in the French escadrilles (squadrons) of World War I.



Commander Eugene A. Valencia, Jr.
Navy Fighter Ace
World War II

Commander Valencia is credited with 23 air victories in the Pacific during World War II.

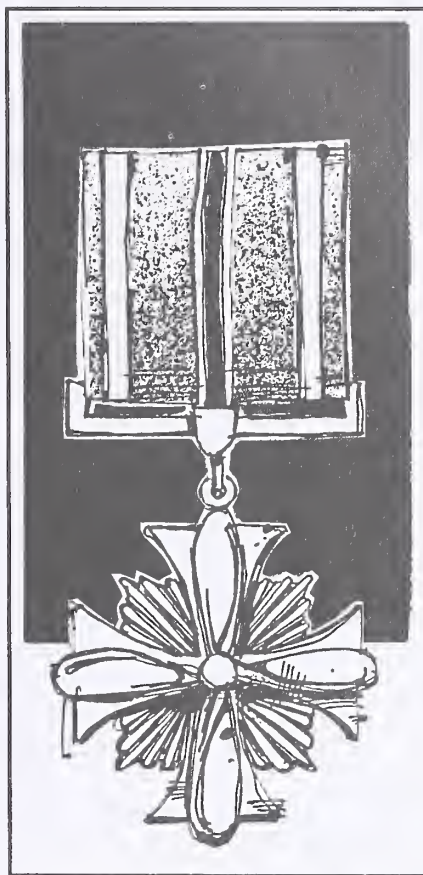
Captain Richard G. Candelaria
Air Force Fighter Ace
World War II

Captain Candelaria was assigned to the 479 Fighter Squadron and fought in the European Theatre. He shot down six German aircraft. On April 13, 1945, he was shot down by anti-aircraft fire in East Prussia and finished the war in a German prisoner of war camp.

Captain Michael Brezas
Air Force Fighter Ace
World War II

Michael Brezas, during the summer of 1944, arrived at Lucera, Italy, to join the 48th Fighter Squadron of the

14th Fighter Group. Flying the P-38 aircraft, Lt. Brezas downed 12 enemy planes within 2 months. On July 8, he destroyed an ME 109 over Vienna, Austria. On a mission to Budapest on July 12, he downed one ME 109 and two FW 190's. He became an ace on July 19 when he destroyed an FW 190 on a mission to Munich, Germany. On July 20, he shot down another ME 109 while flying against Menninger, Germany. Six days later, he destroyed two FW 190's near Buzau, Roumania. Lt. Brezas also downed two ME 109's on August 7 while flying a mission to Blechhammer, Germany. His final two victories were scored on August 25 against two FW 190's while on a mission to Kurin, Czechoslovakia. Michael Brezas came to the 48th Fighter Squadron as a 2d Lieutenant. He was promoted to 1st Lieutenant in July and to Captain in November. He was only 21 years old. He received the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with 11 Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Silver Star.



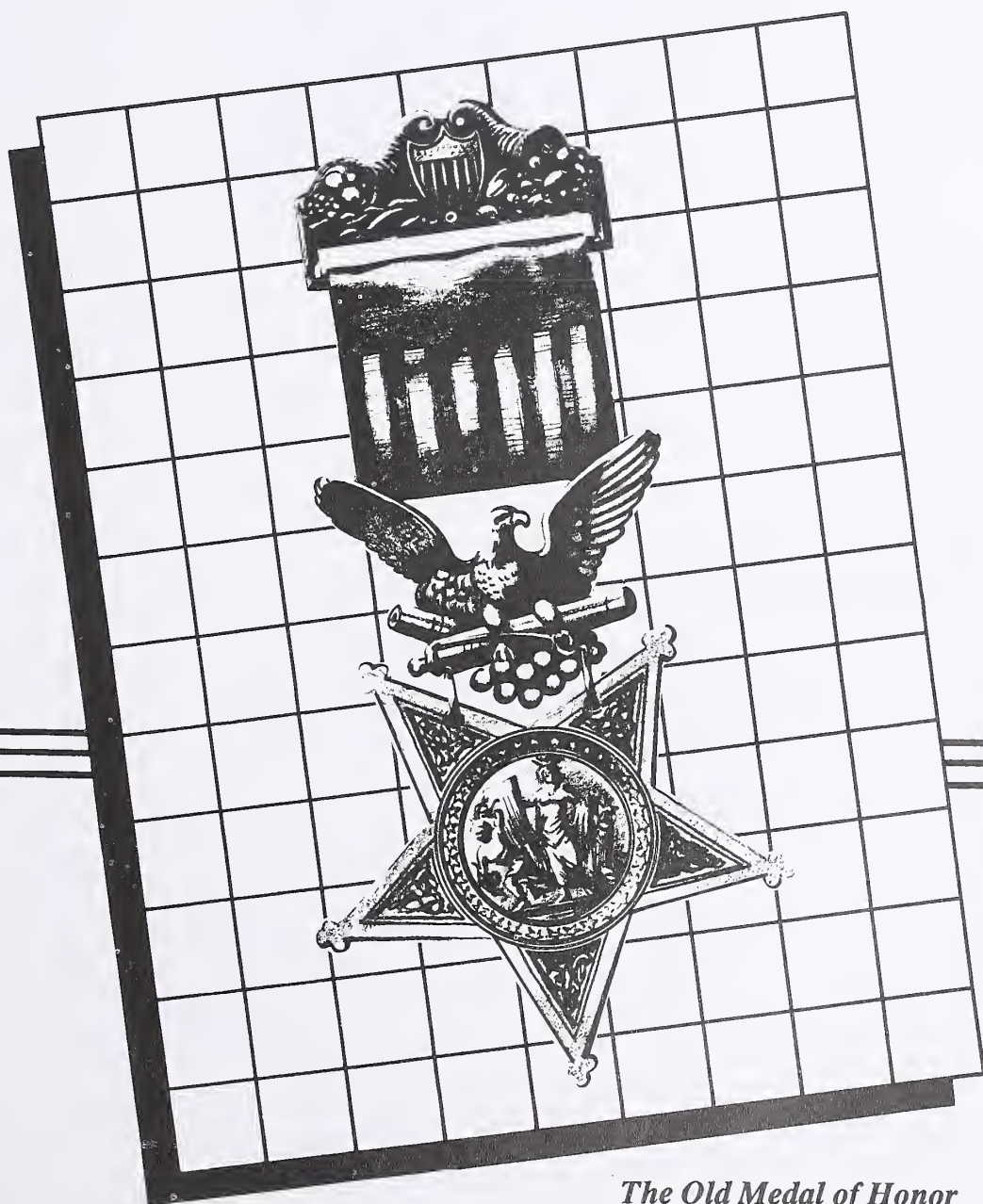
Distinguished Flying Cross

Colonel Manuel J. Fernandez, Jr.
Air Force Fighter Ace
Korean Conflict

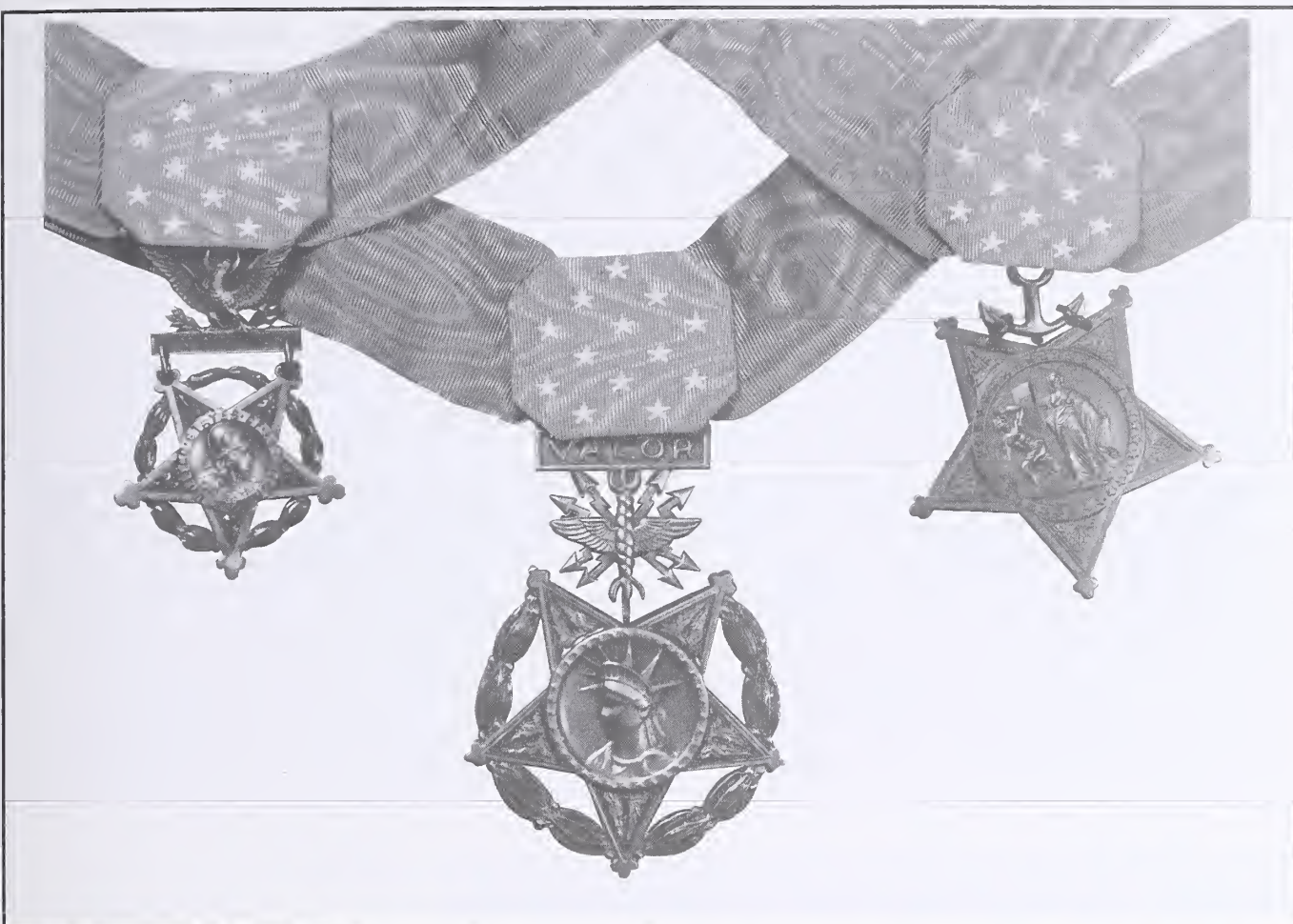
From September 1952 to May 1953, Capt. Manuel J. Fernandez, Jr., shot down 14.5 MIG's and flew 125 combat missions with 4th Fighter Interceptor Wing in Korea. Flying F86 aircraft, his first MIG victory occurred on October 4, 1952. On May 10, 1953, he had his last Korean victory and shared 1/2 victory over MIG aircraft the same day. He is credited with 14 solo victories. Colonel Fernandez was born in Key West, Florida on April 19, 1925. In 1943, he graduated from Andrew Jackson High School in Miami, Florida.



Hispanic American Recipients of the Medal of Honor



*The Old Medal of Honor
1886-1904*



Today's Services Medals of Honor

Introduction

The Medal of Honor takes its place in our country's heritage as the highest award for military valor. This honor, awarded by the President in the name of the Congress, may be accorded an individual who "distinguished himself conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty."

The history of the medal, the deeds for which it has been awarded, and the people who have earned it are of great

interest to the Nation they have served. The most supreme acts of heroism are recognized by the Medal of Honor.

Hispanic-Americans have a sophisticated ancestry which dates back to homesteading this nation 150 years before the war of Independence. Although war is tragic, nevertheless, when our country has been in need, Hispanic-Americans have had more than their share of stouthearted, indomitable men. These Medal of Honor recipients by their actions have shouted

encouragements in the battlefield to their comrades and at home to their fellow Hispanics.

Their intrepid actions have been in the highest tradition, a credit to themselves, their ancestry, and our Nation. Many of these valiant Hispanics made the ultimate sacrifice and received recognition posthumously. They have contributed their full measure to the life and history of the United States of America.

Bazaar, Philip
Civil War

Rank and organization: Ordinary Seaman, U.S. Navy. Born: Chile, South America. Accredited to: Mas-

sachusetts, G.O. No.: 59, June 22, 1865. Citation: On board the *USS Santiago de Cuba* during the assault on Fort Fisher on January 15, 1865. As one of a boat crew detailed to one of the generals on shore, O.S. Bazaar

bravely entered the fort in the assault and accompanied his party in carrying dispatches at the height of the battle. He was 1 of 6 men who entered the Fort in the assault from the fleet.



Ortega, John
Civil War

Rank and organization: Seaman, U.S. Navy. Born: 1840, Spain. Accredited to: Pennsylvania, G.O. No.: 45, December 31, 1864. Citation: Served as seaman on board the *USS Saratoga* during actions of that vessel on 2 occasions. Carrying out his duties courageously during these actions, Ortega conducted himself gallantly through both periods. Promoted to acting master's mate.



U.S.S. Saratoga, ship on which Ortega served

Courtesy of the Philadelphia Maritime Museum



Reverse of medal awarded to Ortega



Silva, France Boxer Rebellion

Rank and organization: Private, U.S. Marine Corps. Born: May 8, 1876, Haywards, Calif. Accredited to: California G.O. No.: 55, July 19, 1901. Citation: In the presence of the enemy during the action at Peking, China, June 28 to August 17, 1900. Throughout this period, Silva distinguished himself by meritorious conduct. Our interests in the Far East which dated back to the Revolution were intensified by acquisition of Pacific possessions in 1898 and 1899. During this period of our occupation with the Spanish-American War, European nations had inaugurated policies in China jeopardizing the freedom of trade in the Orient and threatening to lead to dismemberment of China itself. As the nineteenth cen-

tury drew to a close, the weakening Dynasty was faced with the choice of continuing to protect foreigners in China or of remaining in power on the side of the "Boxers," societies originally organized in patriotic protest against foreign aggression. In 1900 a series of outrages against all "foreign devils" culminated in the siege of the British legation at Peking where many alien residents had taken refuge. The Imperial Government refused to take action and the American minister appealed to the Navy. As a result, the *USS Newark* placed ashore a contingent of marines and three bluejackets as a legation guard. These men, with another detachment of marines, soldiers, and sailors, joined with troops of other western nations in the gallant defense of the Peking legations against the Boxers until the arrival of the Allied Army in August.

Barkley, David World War I

Rank and organization: U.S. Army. Born: 1899 in Laredo, Texas. Place and date: Meuse River, France, November 9, 1918. David Barkley was awarded his Citation posthumously for risking his life above and beyond the call of duty. He volunteered to swim the icy, dangerous Meuse River to ascertain the enemy's location. He and another volunteer swam the river, crawled 400 yards behind enemy lines, and made maps of the locations of enemy artillery units. As the two men were returning to the

river, the Germans discovered them and opened fire. They made it into the water. However, once in the river, Barkley was overcome by cramps and drowned. His partner was able to return safely and relay the information and maps, enabling their unit to launch a successful attack against the enemy.

David Barkley was recognized as the Army's first Hispanic Medal of Honor recipient in a special ceremony on September 16, 1989, during Hispanic Heritage Week. His Hispanic background came to light 71 years after he gallantly gave his life for his country.



Adams, Lucian
World War II

Rank and organization: Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army 30th Infantry, 3d Infantry Division. Place and date: Near St. Die, France, October 28, 1944. Entered service at: Port Arthur, Tex. Birth: Port Arthur, Tex. G.O. No.: 20, March 29, 1945. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life above and beyond the call of duty on October 28, 1944, near St. Die France. When his company was stopped in its effort to drive through the Motagne Forest to reopen the supply line to the isolated third battalion, S/Sgt. Adams braved the concentrated fire of machineguns in a lone assault on a force of German troops. Although his company had progressed less than 10 yards and had lost 3 killed and 6 wounded, S/Sgt. Adams charged forward dodging from tree to tree firing a borrowed BAR from the hip. Despite intense machinegun fire which

the enemy directed at him with broken twigs and branches, S/Sgt. Adams made his way to within 10 yards of the closest machinegun and killed the gunner with a handgrenade. An enemy soldier threw handgrenades at him from a position only 10 yards distant; however, S/Sgt. Adams dispatched him with a single burst of Bar fire. Charging into the vortex of the enemy fire, he killed another machinegunner at 15 yards range with a handgrenade and forced the surrender of 2 supporting infantrymen. Although the remainder of the German group concentrated the full force of its automatic weapons fire in a desperate effort to knock him out, he proceeded through the woods to find and exterminate 5 more of the enemy. Finally, when the third German machinegun opened up on him at a range of 20 yards, S/Sgt Adams killed the gunner with BAR fire. In the course of the action, he personally killed 9 Germans, eliminated 3 enemy machineguns, vanquished a specialized



force which was armed with automatic weapons and grenade launchers, cleared the woods of hostile elements, and reopened the severed supply lines to the assault companies of his battalion.



Garcia, Marcario
World War II

Rank and organization: Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, Company B, 22d Infantry, 4th Infantry Division. Place

and date: Near Grosshau, Germany, November 27, 1944. Entered service at: Sugarland, Tex. Born: January 20, 1920, Villa de Castano, Mexico. G.O. No.: 74, September 1, 1945. Citation: While an acting squad leader of Company B, 22d Infantry, on November 27, 1944, near Grosshau, Germany, he singlehandedly assaulted 2 enemy machinegun emplacements. Attacking prepared positions on a wooded hill which could be approached only through meager cover, his company was pinned down by intense machinegun fire and subjected to a concentrated artillery and mortar barrage. Although painfully wounded, he refused to be evacuated and on his own initiative crawled forward alone until he reached a position near an enemy emplacement. Hurling grenades, he boldly assaulted the position, destroyed the gun, and with his rifle killed 3 of the enemy who attempted to escape. When he rejoined

his company, a second machinegun opened fire and again the intrepid soldier went forward, utterly disregarding his own safety. He stormed the position and destroyed the gun, killed 3 more Germans, and captured 4 prisoners. He fought on with his unit until the objective was taken and only then did he permit himself to be removed for medical care. S/Sgt. (then Private) Garcia's conspicuous heroism, his inspiring, courageous conduct, and his complete disregard for his personal safety wiped out 2 enemy emplacements and enabled his company to advance and secure its objective.

Gonsalves, Harold
World War II

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Born January 28, 1926, Alameda, Calif. Accredited to: California. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as Acting Scout Sergeant with the 4th Battalion, 15th Marines, 6th Marine Division, during action against enemy Japanese forces on Okinawa Shima in the Ryukyu Chain, April 15, 1945. Undaunted by the powerfully organized opposition encountered on Motobu Peninsula during the fierce assault waged by his battalion against the Japanese stronghold at Mount Yaetake, Pfc. Gonsalves repeatedly braved the terrific enemy bombardment to aid his forward observation team in directing

well-placed artillery fire. When his commanding officer determined to move into the front lines in order to register a more effective bombardment in the enemy's defense position, he unhesitatingly advanced uphill with the officer and another Marine despite a slashing barrage of enemy mortar and rifle fire. As they reached the front and a Japanese grenade fell close within the group, instantly Pfc. Gonsalves dived on the deadly missile, absorbing the exploding charge in his own body and thereby protecting the others from serious and perhaps fatal wounds. Stouthearted and indomitable, Pfc. Gonsalves readily yielded his own chances of survival so that his fellow marines might carry on the relentless battle against a fanatic



enemy and his cool decision, prompt action, and valiant spirit of self-sacrifice in the face of certain death reflect the highest credit upon himself and upon the U.S. Naval Service.

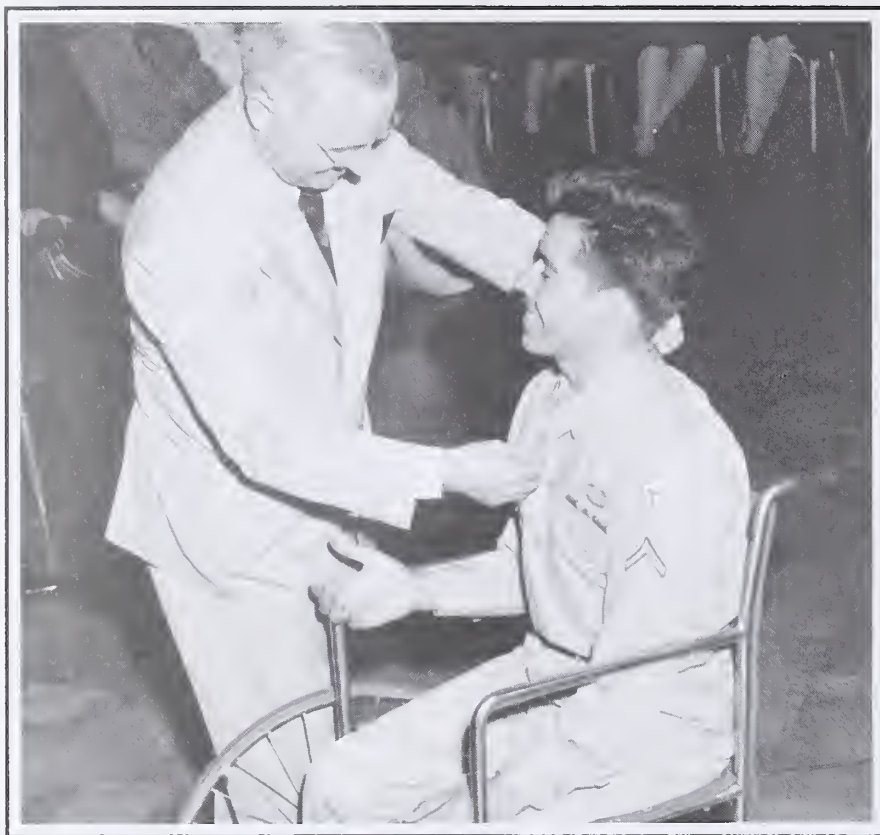


Gonzales, David M.
World War II

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Army Company A, 127th Infantry, 32d Infantry Division. Place and date: Villa Verde Trail, Luzon,

Philippine Islands, April 25, 1945. Entered service at: Pacoma, Calif. Birth: Pacoma, Calif. G.O. No.: 115, December 8, 1945. Citation: He was pinned down with his company. As enemy fire swept the area, making any movement extremely hazardous, a 550-pound bomb smashed into the company's perimeter, burying 5 men with its explosion. Pfc. Gonzales, without hesitation, seized an entrenching tool and under a hail of fire crawled 15 yards to his entombed comrades, where his commanding officer, who had also rushed forward, was beginning to dig the men out. Nearing his goal, he saw the officer struck and instantly killed by machinegun fire. Undismayed, he set to work swiftly and surely with his hands and the entrenching tool while enemy sniper and machinegun bullets struck all about him. He succeeded in digging one of the men out of the pile of rock and sand. To dig faster he

stood up regardless of the greater danger from so exposing himself. He extricated a second man, and then another. As he completed the liberation of the third, he was hit and mortally wounded, but the comrades for whom he so gallantly gave his life were safely evacuated. Pfc. Gonzales' valiant and intrepid conduct exemplifies the highest tradition of the military service.



Herrera, Silvestre S.
World War II U.S. Army Photograph SC 210824-B

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Army Company E, 142d Infantry, 36th Infantry Division. Place and date: Near Mertzwiller, France, 15 March 1945. Entered service at: Phoenix, Ariz. Birth: El Paso, Tex. G.O. No.: 75, 5 September 1945. Citation: He advanced with a platoon along a wooded road until stopped by heavy enemy machinegun fire. As the rest of the unit took cover, he made a 1-man frontal assault on a strongpoint and captured 8 enemy soldiers. When the platoon resumed its advance and was subjected to fire from a second emplacement beyond an extensive minefield, Pvt. Herrera again moved forward, disregarding the danger of exploding mines, to attack the position. He stepped on a mine and had both feet severed; but despite intense pain and unchecked loss of blood, he pinned down the enemy with accurate rifle fire while a friendly squad captured the enemy gun by skirting the minefield and rushing in from the flank. The magnificent courage, extraordinary heroism, and willing self-sacrifice displayed by Pvt. Herrera resulted in the capture of 2 enemy strongpoints and the taking of 8 prisoners.

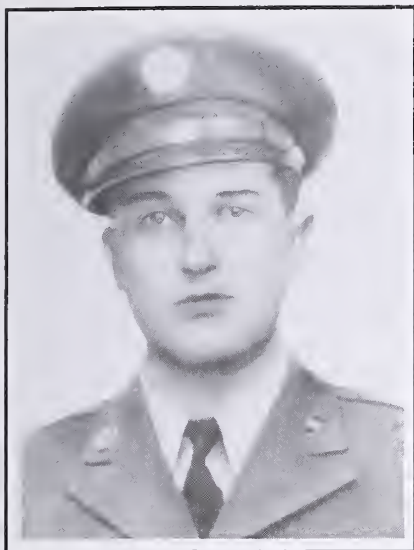


Lopez, Jose M.
World War II

U.S. Army Photograph SC
 313708-NFS

Rank and organization: Sergeant, U.S. Army, 23rd Infantry, 2d Infantry Division. Place and Date: Near Krinkelt, Belgium, December 17, 1944. Entered service at: Brownsville, Tex. Birth: Mission, Tex. G.O. No.: 47, June 18, 1945. Citation: On his own initiative, he carried his heavy machinegun from Company K's right flank to its left, in order to protect that flank which was in danger of being overrun by advancing enemy infantry supported by tanks. Occupying a shallow hole offering no protection above his waist, he cut down a group of 10 Germans. Ignoring enemy fire from an advancing tank, he held his position and cut down 25 more enemy infantry attempting to turn his flank. Glancing to his right, he saw a large number of infantry swarming in from the front. Although dazed and shaken from enemy artillery fire which had crashed into the ground only a few yards away, he realized that his position soon would be outflanked. Again, alone he carried his

machinegun to a position to the right rear of the sector; enemy tanks and infantry were forcing a withdrawal. Blown over backward by the concussion of enemy fire, he immediately reset his gun and continued his fire. Single handed he held off the German horde until he was satisfied his company had effected its retirement. Again he loaded his gun on his back and in a hail of small-arms fire he ran to a point where a few of his comrades were attempting to set up another defense against the onrushing enemy. He fired from this position until his ammunition was exhausted. Still carrying his gun, he fell back with his small group to Krinklet. Sgt. Lopez's gallantry and intrepidity, on seemingly suicidal missions in which he killed at least 100 of the enemy, were almost solely responsible for allowing Company K to avoid being enveloped, to withdraw successfully and to give other forces coming up in support time to build a line which repelled the enemy drive.



Martinez, Joe P.
World War II

U.S. Army Photograph SC
313711-NFS

Rank and organization: Private, U.S. Army, Company K, 32d Infantry, 7th Infantry Division. Place and date: On Attu, Aleutians, May 26, 1943. Entered service at: Atult, Colo. Birth: Taos, N. Mex. G.O. No.: 71, October 27, 1943. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action with the enemy. Over a period of several days, repeated efforts to drive the enemy from a key defensive position high in the snow-covered precipitous mountains between East Arm Holtz Bay and Chicago of Harbor had failed. On May 26, 1943, troop dispositions were readjusted and a trail coordinated attack on this position by a reinforced battalion was launched. Initially successful, the attack hesitated. In the face of severe hostile machinegun, rifle, and mortar fire, Pvt. Martinez, an automatic rifleman, rose to his feet and resumed his advance. Occasionally he stopped to urge his comrades on. His example inspired others to follow.

After a most difficult climb, Pvt. Martinez eliminated resistance from part of the enemy position by BAR fire and handgrenades, thus assisting the advance of other attacking elements. This success only partially completed the action. The main Holtz-Chicago Pass rose about 150 feet higher, flanked by steep rocky ridges and reached by a snow-filled defile. Passage was barred by enemy fire from either flank and from tiers of snow trenches in front. Despite these obstacles, and knowing of their existence, Pvt. Martinez again led the troops on and up, personally silencing several trances with BAR fire and ultimately reaching the pass itself. Here, just below the knifelike rim of the pass, Pvt. Martinez encountered a final enemy-occupied trench and as he was engaged in firing into it, he was mortally wounded. The pass, however, was taken, and its capture was an important preliminary to the end of organized hostile resistance on the island.



Perez, Manuel, Jr.
World War II

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Army, Company A, 511th Parachute Infantry, 11th Airborne

Division. Place and date: Fort William McKinley, Luzon, Philippine Islands, February 13, 1945. Entered service at: Chicago, Ill. Born: March 3, 1923 Oklahoma City, Okla. G.O. No.: 124, December 27, 1945. Citation: He was lead scout for Company A, which had destroyed 11 of 12 pillboxes in a strongly fortified sector defending the approach to enemy-held Fort William McKinley on Luzon, Philippine Islands. In the reduction of these pillboxes, he killed 5 Japanese in the open and blasted others in pillboxes with grenades. Realizing the urgent need for taking the last emplacement, which contained 2 twin-mount .50 caliber dual-purpose machineguns, he took a circuitous route to within 20 yards of the position, killing 4 of the enemy in his advance. He threw a grenade into the pillbox and, as the crew started withdrawing through a tunnel just to the rear of the emplace-

ment, shot and killed 4 before exhausting his clip. He had reloaded and killed 4 more when as escaping Japanese threw his rifle with fixed bayonet at him. In warding off this thrust, his own rifle was knocked to the ground. Seizing the Jap rifle, he continued firing, killing 2 more of the enemy. He rushed the remaining Japanese, killed 3 of them with the butt of the rifle and entered the pillbox, where he bayoneted the surviving hostile soldier. Singlehandedly, he killed 18 of the enemy in neutralizing the position that held up the advance of this entire company. Through his courageous determination and heroic disregard of grave danger, Pfc. Perez made possible the successful advance of his unit toward a valuable objective and provided a lasting inspiration for his comrades.

Rodriguez, Cleto
World War II

U.S. Army Photograph SC 313757-NSF

Rank and organization: Technical Army, Company B, 148th Infantry, 37th Division. Place and date: Paco Railroad Station, Manila, Philippine Islands, February 9, 1945. Entered service at: San Antonio, Tex. Birth: San Marcos, Tex. G.O. No.: 97, November 1, 1945. Citation: He was an automatic rifleman when his unit attacked the strongly defended Paco Railroad Station during the battle for Manila, Philippine Islands. While making a frontal assault across an open field, his platoon was halted 100 yards from the station by intense enemy fire. On his own initiative, he left the platoon, accompanied by a comrade, and continued forward to a house 60 yards from the objective. Although under constant enemy observation, the 2 men remained in this position for an hour, firing at targets of opportunity, killing

more than 35 hostile soldiers and wounding many more. Moving closer to the station and discovering a group of Japanese replacements attempting to reach pillboxes, they opened heavy fire, killed more than 40 and stopped all subsequent attempts to man the emplacements. Enemy fire became more intense as they advanced to within 20 yards of the station. Then, covered by his companion, Pvt. Rodriguez boldly moved up to the building and threw 5 grenades through a doorway killing 7 Japanese, destroying a 20-mm gun, and wrecking a heavy machinegun. With their ammunition running low, the 2 men started to return to the American lines, alternately providing covering fire for each other's withdrawal. During this movement, Pvt. Rodriguez' companion was killed. In 2 1/2 hours of fierce fighting the intrepid team killed more than 82 Japanese, completely disorganized their defense, and paved the way for the subsequent overwhelming defeat of the enemy at this strongpoint. Two days later, Pvt. Rodriguez again enabled his comrades to advance when



he singlehandedly killed 6 Japanese and destroyed a well-placed 20-mm gun. By his outstanding skill with his weapons, gallant determination to destroy the enemy, and heroic courage in the face of tremendous odds, Pvt. Rodriguez, on 2 occasions, materially aided the advance of our troops in Manila.

Ruiz, Alejandro R.
World War II

U.S. Army Photograph SC 243145

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Army, 165th Infantry, 27th Infantry Division. Place and date: Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, April 28, 1945. Entered service at: Carlsbad, N. Mex. Birth: Loving, N. Mex. G.O. No.: 60, June 26, 1946. Citation: When his unit was stopped by a skillfully camouflaged enemy pillbox, he displayed conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty. His squad, suddenly brought under a hail of machinegun fire and vicious grenade attack, was pinned

down. Jumping to his feet, Pfc. Ruiz seized an automatic rifle and lunged through the flying grenades and rifle and automatic fire for the top of the emplacement. When an enemy soldier charged him, his rifle jammed. Undaunted, Pfc. Ruiz whirled on his assailant and clubbed him down. Then he ran back through bullets and grenades, seized more ammunition and another automatic rifle, and again made for the pillbox. Enemy fire now was concentrated on him, but he charged on, miraculously reaching the position, and in plain view he climbed to the top. Leaping from one opening to another, he sent burst after burst into the pillbox, killing 12 of the enemy and completely destroying the position. Pfc. Ruiz's heroic conduct, in the face of overwhelming odds,



saved the lives of many comrades and eliminated an obstacle that long would have checked his unit's advance.



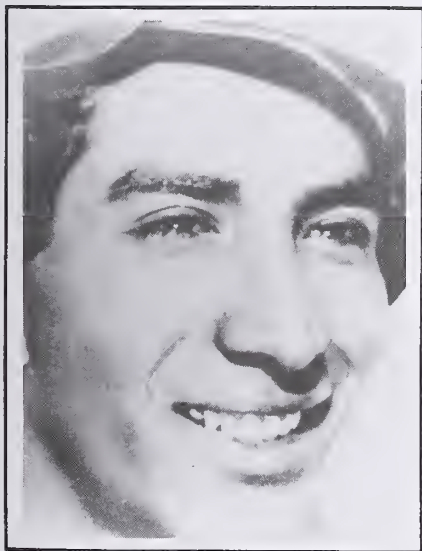
Valdez, Jose F.
World War II

U.S. Army Photograph SC
313782-NFS

Rank and organization: Private First
Class, U.S. Army, Company B, 7th In-
fantry Division. Place and date: Near

Rosenkrantz, France, January 25, 1945. Entered service at: Pleasant Grove, Utah. Birth: Gobernador, N. Mex. G.O. No.: 16, February 8, 1946. Citation: He was on outpost duty with 5 others when the enemy counterattacked with overwhelming strength. From his position near some woods 500 yards beyond the American lines he observed a tank about 75 yards away, and raked it with automatic rifle fire until it withdrew. Soon afterward he saw 3 Germans stealthily approaching through the woods. Scorning cover as the enemy soldiers opened up with heavy automatic weapons fire from a range of 30 yards, he engaged in a fire fight with the attackers until he had killed all 3. The enemy quickly launched an attack with 2 full companies of infantrymen, blasting the patrol with murderous concentrations of automatic and rifle fire and beginning an encircling movement which forced the patrol leader to order a withdrawal. Despite the terrible odds, Pfc. Valdez immediately volunteered to cover the maneuver, and as the patrol one by one plunged through a

hail of bullets toward the American lines, he fired burst after burst into the swarming enemy. Three of his companions were wounded in their dash for safety and he was struck by a bullet that entered his stomach and, passing through his body, emerged from his back. Overcoming agonizing pain, he regained control of himself and resumed his firing position, delivering a protective screen of bullets until all others of the patrol were safe. By field telephone he called for artillery and mortar fire on the Germans and corrected the range until he had shells falling within 50 yards of his position. For 15 minutes he refused to be dislodged by more than 200 of the enemy; then seeing that the barrage had broken the counterattack, he dragged himself back to his own lines. He died later as a result of his wounds. Through his valiant, intrepid stand and the cost of his own life, Pfc. Valdez made it possible for his comrades to escape, and was directly responsible for repulsing an attack by vastly superior enemy forces.



Villegas, Ysmael R.
World War II

Rank and organization: Staff Sergeant, U.S. Army, Company F, 127th Infantry, 32d Infantry Division. Place and date: Villa Verde Trail, Luzon, Philippine Islands, March 20, 1945. Entered service at: Casa Blanca, Calif. Birth: Casa Blanca, Calif. G.O. No.: 89, October 19, 1945. Citation: He was a squad leader when his unit in a forward position, clashed with an enemy strongly entrenched in connected caves and foxholes on commanding ground. He move boldly from man to man, in the face of bursting grenades and demolition charges, through heavy machinegun and rifle fire, to bolster the spirit of his comrades. Inspired by his gallantry, his men pressed forward to the crest of the hill. Numerous enemy riflemen, refusing to flee, continued firing from their

foxholes. S/Sgt Villegas, with complete disregard for his own safety and bullets which kicked up the dirt at his feet, charged an enemy position, and, firing at point-blank range, killed the Japanese in a foxhole. He rushed a second foxhole while bullets missed him by inches, and killed 1 more of the enemy. In rapid succession he charged at a third, a fourth, a fifth foxhole, each time destroying the enemy within. The fire against him increased in intensity, but he pressed onward to attack a sixth position. As he neared his goal, he was hit and killed by enemy fire. Through his heroism and indomitable fighting spirit, S/Sgt. Villegas, at the cost of his life, inspired his men to a determined attack in which they swept the enemy from the field.

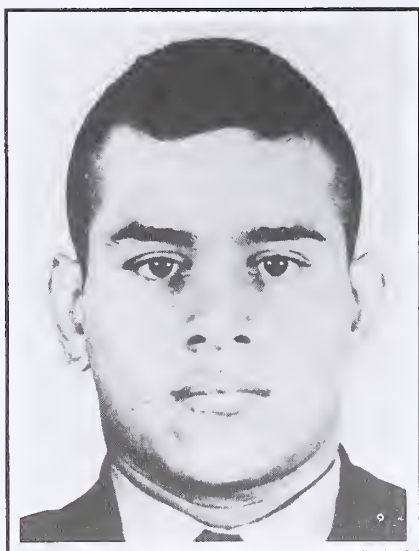


Garcia, Fernando Luis
Korean Conflict

U.S. Marine Corps Photograph USMC
A 403017

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Marine Corps, Company I, 3d Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein). Place and date: Korea, September 5, 1952. Entered service at: San Juan, P.R. Born: October 14, 1929, Utuado, P.R. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life and above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a member of Company I, in action against enemy aggressor forces. While participating in the defense of a combat outpost located more than 1 mile forward of the main line of resistance during a savage night attack by a fanatical enemy force employing grenades, mortars, and ar-

tillery, Pfc. Garcia, although suffering painful wounds, moved through the intense hail of hostile fire to a supply point to secure more handgrenades. Quick to act when a hostile grenade landed nearby, endangering the life of another marine, as well as his own, he unhesitatingly chose to sacrifice himself and immediately threw his body upon the deadly missile, receiving the full impact of the explosion. His great personal valor and cool decision in the face of almost certain death sustain and enhance the fine traditions of the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.



Gomez, Edward
Korean Conflict

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Marine Corps. Reserve, Company E, 2d Battalion, 1st Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein). Place and date: Korea, Hill 749, September 14, 1951. Entered service at: Omaha, Nebr. Born: August 10, 1932, Omaha, Nebr. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as an ammunition bearer in Company E, in action against enemy aggressor forces. Boldly advancing with his squad in support of a group of riflemen assaulting a series of strongly fortified and bitterly defended hostile positions on Hill 749, Pfc. Gomez consistently exposed himself to the withering barrage to keep his machinegun supplied with ammunition during the drive forward to seize the objective. As his squad deployed to meet an imminent

counterattack, he voluntarily moved down an abandoned trench to search for a new location for the gun and, when a hostile grenade landed between himself and his weapon, he shouted a warning to those around him as he grasped the activated charge in his hand. Determined to save his comrades, he unhesitatingly chose to sacrifice himself and, diving into the ditch with the deadly missile, absorbed the shattering violence of the explosion in his body. By his stouthearted courage, incomparable valor, and decisive spirit of self-sacrifice, Pfc. Gomez inspired the others to heroic efforts in subsequently repelling the outnumbering foe, and his valiant conduct throughout sustained and enhanced the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

Guillen, Ambrosio
Korean Conflict

*U.S. Marine Corps Photograph USMC
#407003*

Rank and organization: Staff Sergeant, U.S. Marine Corps, Company F, 2d Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein). Place and date: Near Songuch-on, Korea, July 25, 1953. Entered service at: El Paso, Tex. Born: December 7, 1929, La Junta, Colo. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a platoon sergeant of Company F in action against enemy aggressor forces. Participating in the defense of an outpost forward of the main line of resistance, S/Sgt. Guillen maneuvered his platoon over unfamiliar terrain in the face of hostile fire and placed his men in fighting positions. With his unit pinned down

when the outpost was attacked under cover of darkness by an estimated force of 2 enemy battalions supported by mortar and artillery fire, he deliberately exposed himself to the heavy barrage and attacks to direct his men in defending their positions and personally supervise the treatment and evacuation of the wounded. Inspired by his leadership, the platoon quickly rallied and engaged the enemy in fierce hand-to-hand combat. Although critically wounded during the course of the battle, S/Sgt. Guillen refused medical aid and continued to direct his men throughout the remainder of the engagement until the enemy was defeated and thrown into disorderly retreat. Succumbing to his wounds within a few hours, S/Sgt. Guillen, by his outstanding courage and indomitable fighting spirit, was directly responsible for the success of his platoon in repelling a numerically superior enemy force. His personal



valor reflects the highest credit upon himself and enhances the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

Hernandez, Rodolfo P.
Korean Conflict

U.S. Army Photograph SC-399534

Rank and organization: Corporal, U.S. Army, Company G, 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team. Place and date: Near Wontong-ni, Korea, May 31, 1951. Entered service at: Fowler, Calif. Born: April 14, 1931, Colton, Calif. G.O. No.: 40, April 21, 1962. Citation: Cpl. Hernandez, a member of Company G, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy. His platoon, in defense positions on Hill 420, came under ruthless attack by a numerically superior and fanatical hostile force, accompanied by heavy artillery, mortar, and machinegun fire which inflicted numerous casualties on the platoon.

His comrades were forced to withdraw due to lack of ammunition but Cpl. Hernandez, although wounded in an exchange of grenades, continued to deliver deadly fire into the ranks of the onrushing assailants until a ruptured cartridge rendered his rifle inoperative. Immediately leaving his position, Cpl. Hernandez rushed the enemy armed with only the rifle and bayonet. Fearlessly engaging the foe, he killed 6 of the enemy before falling unconscious from grenade, bayonet, and bullet wounds, but his heroic action momentarily halted the enemy advance and enabled his unit to counterattack and retake the lost ground. The indomitable fighting spirit, outstanding courage, and tena-



cious devotion to duty clearly demonstrated by Cpl. Hernandez reflect the highest credit upon himself, the infantry, and the U.S. Army.



Lopez, Baldomero
Korean Conflict

Defense Dept. Photo (Marine Corps)
A43985

Rank and organization: First Lieutenant, U.S. Marine Corps, Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein). Place and date: During Inchon invasion in Korea, September 15, 1950. Entered service at: Tampa, Florida. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as a rifle platoon commander of Company A, in action against enemy aggressor forces. With his platoon 1st Lt. Lopez was engaged in the reduction of immediate enemy beach defenses after landing with the assault waves. Exposing himself to hostile fire, he moved forward alongside a bunker and prepared to throw a handgrenade into the next pillbox, whose fire was pinning down that sector of the beach. Taken under fire by an enemy automatic weapon and hit in the right shoulder and chest

as he lifted his arm to throw, he fell backward and dropped the deadly missile. After a moment, he turned and dragged his body forward in an effort to retrieve the grenade and throw it. In critical condition from pain and loss of blood, and unable to grasp the handgrenade firmly enough to hurl it, he chose to sacrifice himself rather than endanger the lives of his men and, with a sweeping motion of his wounded right arm, cradled the grenade under him and absorbed the full impact of the explosion. His exceptional courage, fortitude, and devotion to duty reflect the highest credit upon 1st Lt. Lopez and the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

Martinez, Benito
Korean Conflict

Rank and organization: Corporal, U.S. Army, Company A, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division. Place and date: Near Sataeri, Korea, September 6, 1952. Entered service at: Fort Hancock, Tex. Born: March 21, 1931, Fort Hancock, Tex. G.O. No.: 96, December 28, 1953. Citation: Cpl. Martinez, a machine gunner with Company A, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and outstanding courage above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy. While manning a listening post forward of the main line of resistance, his position was attacked by a hostile force of reinforced company strength. In the bitter fighting which ensued, the enemy infiltrated the defense

perimeter and, realizing that encirclement was imminent, Cpl. Martinez elected to remain in his post in an attempt to stem the onslaught. In a daring defense, he raked the attacking troops with crippling fire, inflicting numerous casualties. Although contacted by sound power phone several times, he insisted that no attempt be made to rescue him because of the danger involved. Soon thereafter, the hostile forces rushed the emplacement, forcing him to make a limited withdrawal with only an automatic rifle and pistol to defend himself. After a courageous 6-hour stand and shortly before dawn, he called in for the last time, stating that the enemy was converging on his position. His magnificent stand enabled friendly elements to reorganize, attack, and regain the key terrain. Cpl. Martinez'



incredible valor and supreme sacrifice reflect lasting glory upon himself and are in keeping with the honored tradition of the military service.



Obregon, Eugene Arnold
Korean Conflict

*U.S. Marine Corps Photograph USMC
#A-43987-B*

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Marine Corps, Company G, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division (Rein). Place and date: Seoul, Korea, September 26, 1950. Entered service at: Los Angeles, Calif. Born: November 12, 1930, Los Angeles, Calif. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving with Company G, in action against enemy aggressor forces. While serving as an ammunition carrier of a machinegun squad in a Marine rifle company which was temporarily pinned down by hostile fire, Pfc. Obregon observed a fellow marine fall wounded in the line of fire. Armed only with pistol, he unhesitatingly dashed from his covered position to the side of the casualty. Firing his pistol with one hand as he ran, he grasped his comrade by the arm with his other hand and, despite the great peril to himself,

dragged him to the side of the road. Still under enemy fire, he was bandaging the man's wounds when hostile troops of approximately platoon strength began advancing toward his position. Quickly seizing the wounded marine's carbine, he placed his own body as a shield in front of him and laid there firing accurately and effectively into the hostile group until he himself was fatally wounded by enemy machinegun fire. By his courageous fighting spirit, fortitude, and loyal devotion to duty, Pfc. Obregon enabled his fellow marines to rescue the wounded man and aided essentially in repelling the attack, thereby sustaining and enhancing the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.

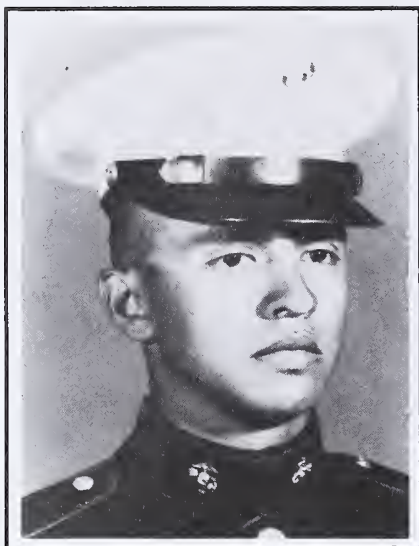
Rodriguez, Joseph C.
Korean Conflict

Rank and organization: Sergeant (then Pfc.), U.S. Army, Company F, 17th Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. Place and date: Near Munye-ri, Korea, May 21, 1951. Entered service at: California. Born: November 14, 1928, San Bernardino, Calif. G.O. No.: 22, February 5, 1952. Citation: Sgt. Rodriguez distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty in action against an armed enemy of the United Nations. Sgt. Rodriguez, an assistant squad leader of the 2d platoon, was participating in an attack against a fanatical hostile force occupying well-fortified positions on rugged commanding terrain, when his squad's advance was halted within approximately 60 yards by a withering

barrage of automatic weapons and small-arms fire from 5 emplacements directly to the front and right and left flanks, together with grenades which the enemy rolled down the hill toward the advancing troops. Fully aware of the odds against him, Sgt. Rodriguez leaped to his feet, dashed 60 yards up the fire-swept slope, and after lobbing grenades into the first foxhole with deadly accuracy, ran around the left flank, silenced an automatic weapon with 2 grenades, and continued his whirlwind assault to the top of the peak, wiping out 2 more fox holes. Reaching the right flank, he tossed grenades into the remaining emplacement, destroying the gun and annihilating its crew. Sgt. Rodriguez' intrepid actions exacted a toll of 15 enemy dead and, as a result of his incredible display of valor, the defense of the opposition was broken, the enemy was routed, and the strategic strongpoint was secured.



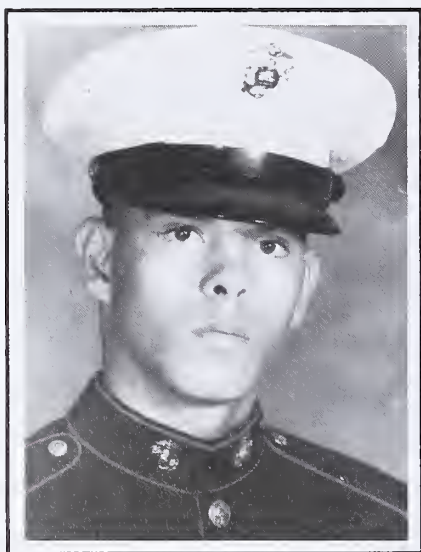
His unflinching courage under fire and inspirational devotion to duty reflect the highest credit on himself and uphold the honored traditions of the military service.



De La Garza, Emilio A., Jr.
Vietnam Era

Rank and organization: Lance Corporal, U.S. Marine Corps, Company E, 2d Battalion, 1st Marine Division. Place and date: Near Da Nang, Republic of Vietnam, April 11, 1970. Entered service at: Chicago, Ill. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a machine gunner with Company E. returning with his squad from a night ambush operation, L/Cpl. De La Garza joined his platoon commander and another marine in searching for 2 enemy soldiers who had been observed fleeing for cover toward a small pond. Moments later, he located 1 of the enemy soldiers hiding among the reeds and brush. As

the 3 marines attempted to remove the resisting soldier from the pond, L/Cpl. De La Garza observed him pull the pin on a grenade. Shouting a warning, L/Cpl. De La Garza placed himself between the other 2 marines and the ensuring blast from the grenade, thereby saving the lives of his comrades at the sacrifice of his life. By his prompt and decisive action, and his great personal valor in the face of almost certain death, L/Cpl. De La Garza upheld and further enhanced the finest tradition of the Marine Corps and the U.S. Naval Service.



Dias, Ralph E.
Vietnam Era

Rank and organization: Private First Class, U.S. Marine Corps, 3d Platoon, Company D, 1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF. Place and date: Que Son Mountains, Republic of Vietnam, November 12, 1969. Entered service at: Pittsburgh, Pa. Born: July 15, 1950, Shelocta, Indiana County, Pa. Citation: As a member of a reaction force which was pinned down by enemy fire while assisting a platoon in the same circumstance, Pfc. Dias, observing that both units were sustaining casualties, initiated an aggressive assault against an enemy machinegun bunker which was the principal source of hostile fire. Severely wounded by enemy snipers while charging across the open area, he pulled himself to the shelter of a nearby rock. Braving enemy fire for a second time, Pfc. Dias

was again wounded. Unable to walk, he crawled 15 meters to the protection of a rock located near his objective and, repeatedly exposing himself to intense hostile fire, unsuccessfully threw several handgrenades at the machinegun emplacement. Still determined to destroy the emplacement, Dias again moved into the open and was wounded a third time by sniper fire. As he threw a last grenade which destroyed the enemy position, he was mortally wounded by another enemy round. Pfc. Dias' indomitable courage, dynamic initiative, and selfless devotion to duty upheld the highest tradition of the Marine Corps and the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life in the service to his country.

*U.S. Marine Corps Photograph USMC
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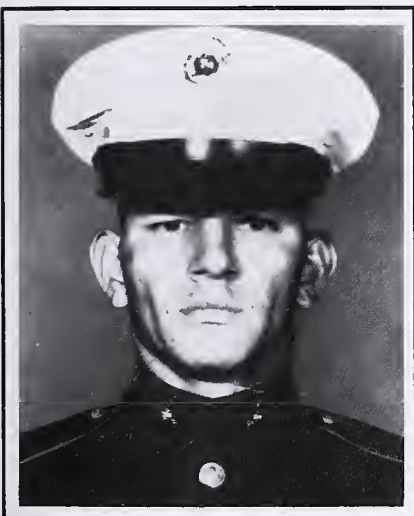


Fernandez, Daniel
Vietnam Era

U.S. Army Photograph P 42910

Rank and organization: Specialist Fourth Class, U.S. Army, Company C, 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry (Mechanized) 25th Infantry Division. Place and date: Cu Chi, Hau Nghia Province, Republic of Vietnam, February 19, 1966. Entered service at: Albuquerque, N. Mex. G.O. No.: 21, April 26, 1967. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty, SP4. Fernandez demonstrated indomitable courage when the patrol was ambushed by a Viet Cong rifle company and driven back by the intense enemy automatic weapons fire before it could evacuate an American soldier who had been wounded in the Viet Cong attack. SP4. Fernandez, a sergeant, and 2 other volunteers immediately fought their way through devastating fire and exploding grenades to reach the fallen soldier. Upon reaching their fallen comrade, the sergeant was struck in the knee by machinegun fire and immobilized. SP4.

Fernandez took charge, rallied the left flank of his patrol, and began to assist in the recovery of the wounded sergeant. While first aid was being administered to the wounded man, a sudden increase in the accuracy and intensity of enemy fire forced the volunteer group to take cover. As they did, an enemy grenade landed in the midst of the group, although some men did not see it. Realizing there was no time for the wounded sergeant or the other men to protect themselves from the grenade blast, SP4. Fernandez vaulted over the wounded sergeant and threw himself on the grenade as it exploded, saving the lives of his 4 comrades at the sacrifice of his life. SP4. Fernandez' profound concern for his fellow soldiers, at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty, is in the highest tradition of the U.S. Army and reflects great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of his country.



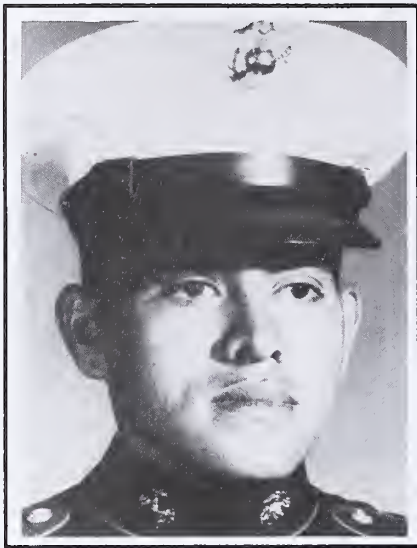
Gonzalez, Alfredo
Vietnam Era

U.S. Marine Corps Photograph USMC #A419730

Rank and organization: Sergeant, U.S. Marine Corps, Company A, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, 1st Marines Division (Rein), FMF. Place and date: Near Thua Thien, Republic of Vietnam, February 4, 1968. Entered service at: San Antonio, Tex. Born May 23, 1946, Edinburg, Tex. Cita-

tion: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as platoon commander, 3rd Platoon, Company A. On January 31, 1968, during the initial phase of Operation Hue City, Sgt. Gonzalez' unit was formed as a reaction force and deployed to Hue to relieve the pressure on the beleaguered city. While moving by truck convoy along Route No. 1, near the village of Lang Van Luong, the marines received a heavy volume of enemy fire. Sgt. Gonzalez aggressively maneuvered the marines in his platoon, and directed their fire until the area was cleared of snipers. Immediately after crossing a river south of Hue, the column was again hit by intense enemy fire. One of the marines on top of a tank was wounded and fell to the ground in an exposed position. With complete disregard for his safety, Sgt. Gonzalez ran through the fire-swept area to the assistance of his injured comrade. He lifted him up and though receiving fragmentation wounds during the rescue, he carried the wounded marine to a covered position for treatment. Due to the increased volume and accuracy of enemy fire from a fortified machinegun bunker on the side of the road, the company was tem-

porarily halted. Realizing the gravity of the situation, Sgt. Gonzalez exposed himself to enemy fire and moved his platoon along the east side of a bordering rice paddy to a dike directly across from the bunker. Though fully aware of the danger involved, he moved to the fire-swept road and destroyed the hostile position with handgrenades. Although seriously wounded again on 3 February, he steadfastly refused medical treatment and continued to supervise his men and lead the attack. On February 4, the enemy had again pinned the company down, inflicting heavy casualties with automatic weapons and rocket fire. Sgt. Gonzales, utilizing a number of light antitank assault weapons, fearlessly moved from position firing numerous rounds at the heavily fortified enemy emplacements. He successfully knocked out a rocket position and suppressed much of the enemy fire before falling mortally wounded. The heroism, courage, and dynamic leadership displayed by Sgt. Gonzalez reflected great credit upon himself and the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service. He gallantly gave his life for his country.



Jimenez, Jose Francisco
Vietnam Era

Defense Dept. Photo (Marine Corps)
A 700479

Rank and organization: Lance Corporal, U.S. Marine Corps, Company K, 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division. Place and date: Quang Nam Province, Republic of Vietnam, August 28, 1969. Entered service at: Phoenix, Ariz. Born: March 20, 1946, Mexico City, Mex. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a fire team leader with Company K, in operations against the enemy. L/Cpl. Jimenez' unit came under heavy attack by North Vietnamese soldiers concealed in well-camouflaged emplacements. L/Cpl. Jimenez reacted by seizing the initiative and plunging forward toward the enemy positions. He personally destroyed several enemy personnel and silenced an antiaircraft weapon. Shouting encouragement to his com-

panions, L/Cpl. Jimenez continued his aggressive forward movement. He slowly maneuvered to within 10 feet of hostile soldiers who were firing automatic weapons from a trench and, in the face of vicious enemy fire, destroyed the position. Although he was by now the target of the concentrated fire from hostile gunners intent upon halting his assault, L/Cpl. Jimenez continued to press forward. As he moved to attack another enemy soldier, he was mortally wounded. L/Cpl. Jimenez' indomitable courage, aggressive fighting spirit, and unfaltering devotion to duty upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and of the U.S. Naval Service.

Keith, Miguel
Vietnam Era

Defense Dept. Photo (Marine Corps)
A 702062

Rank and organization: Lance Corporal, U.S. Marine Corps Combined Action Platoon 1-3-2, III Marine Amphibious Force. Place and date: Quang Ngai Province, Republic of Vietnam, May 8, 1970. Entered service at: Omaha, Nebr. Born: June 2, 1951, San Antonio, Tex. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a machine gunner with Combined Action Platoon 1-3-2. During the early morning, L/Cpl. Keith was seriously wounded when his platoon was subjected to a heavy ground attack by a greatly outnumbering enemy force. Despite his painful wounds, he ran across the fire-swept terrain to

check the security of vital defensive positions and then, while completely exposed to view, proceeded to deliver a hail of devastating machinegun fire against the enemy. Determined to stop 5 of the enemy soldiers approaching the command post, he rushed forward, firing as he advanced. He succeeded in disposing of 3 of the attackers and in dispersing the remaining 2. At this point, a grenade detonated near L/Cpl. Keith, knocking him to the ground and inflicting further severe wounds. Fighting pain and weakness from loss of blood, he again braved the concentrated hostile fire to charge an estimated 25 enemy soldiers who were massing to attack. The vigor of his assault and his well-placed fire eliminated 4 of the enemy soldiers while the remainder fled for cover. During this valiant effort, he was mortally wounded by an enemy soldier. By his courageous and inspiring performance in the face of almost overwhelming odds, L/Cpl. Keith

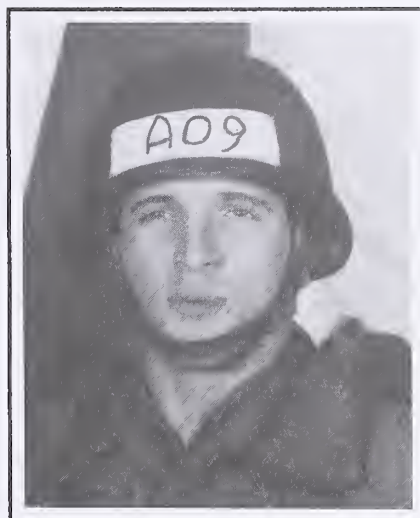


contributed in large measure to the success of his platoon in routing a numerically superior enemy force, and upheld the finest traditions of the Marine Corps and of the U.S. Naval Service.

Lozada, Carlos James
Vietnam Era

Rank and organization: Private first Class, U.S. Army, Company A, 2d Battalion, 502d Infantry, 173d Airborne Brigade. Place and date: Dak To, Republic of Vietnam, November 20, 1967. Entered Service at: New York, N.Y. Born: September 6, 1946, Caguas, Puerto Rico. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Pfc. Lozada, U.S. Army, distinguished himself at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty in the battle of Dak To. While serving as a machine gunner with 1st Platoon, Company A, Pfc. Lozada was part of a 4-man early warning outpost, located 35 meters from his company's lines. At 1400 hours, a North Vietnamese Army company rapidly approached the outpost along a well-defined trail. Pfc. Lozada alerted his comrades and commenced firing at the outpost. His heavy and accurate machinegun fire killed at least 20 North Vietnamese soldiers and completely

disrupted their initial attack. Pfc. Lozada remained in an exposed position and continued to pour deadly fire upon the enemy despite the urgent pleas of his comrades to withdraw. The enemy continued their assault, attempting to envelop the outpost. At the same time, enemy forces launched a heavy attack on the forward west flank of Company A with the intent to cut them off from their battalion. Company A was given the order to withdraw. Pfc. Lozada apparently realized that if he abandoned his position there would be nothing to hold back the surging North Vietnamese soldiers and that the entire company withdrawal would be jeopardized. He called for his comrades to move back and that he would stay and provide cover for them. He made this decision realizing that the enemy was converging on 3 sides of his position and only meters away, and a delay in withdrawal meant almost certain death. Pfc. Lozada continue to deliver a heavy, accurate volume of suppressive fire against the enemy until he was mortally wounded and had to be carried during the withdrawal. His heroic deed served as an



example and an inspiration to his comrades throughout the ensuing 4-day battle. Pfc. Lozada's actions are in the highest traditions of the U.S. Army and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the Army.

Rocco, Louis R.
Vietnam Era

Rank and organization: Warrant Officer (then Sergeant First class), U.S. Army, Advisory Team 162, U.S. Military Assistance Command. Place and date: Northeast of Katum, Republic of Vietnam, May 24, 1970. Entered service at: Los Angeles, Calif. Born: November 19, 1938, Albuquerque, N. Mex. Citation: WO Rocco distinguished himself when he volunteered to accompany a medical evacuation team on an urgent mission to evacuate 8 critically wounded Army of the Republic of Vietnam personnel. As the helicopter approached the landing zone, it became the target for intense enemy automatic weapons fire. Disregarding his own safety, WO Rocco identified and place accurate suppressive fire on the enemy positions as the aircraft descended toward the landing zone. Sustaining major

damage from the enemy fire, the aircraft was forced to crash land, causing WO Rocco to sustain a fractured wrist and hip and severely bruised back. Ignoring his injuries, he extracted the survivors from the burning wreckage, sustaining burns to his own body. Despite intense enemy fire, WO Rocco carried each unconscious man across approximately 20 meters of exposed terrain to the Army of the Republic of Vietnam perimeter. On each trip, his severely burned hands and broken wrist caused excruciating pain, but the lives of the unconscious crash survivors were more important than his personal discomfort, and he continued his rescue efforts. Once inside the friendly position, WO Rocco helped administer first aid to his wounded comrades until his wounds and burns caused him to collapse and lose consciousness. His bravery under fire and intense devotion to duty were directly responsible for saving 3 of his



fellow soldiers from certain death. His unparalleled bravery in the face of enemy fire, his complete disregard for his own pain and injuries, and his performance were far above and beyond the call of duty and were in keeping with the highest traditions of self-sacrifice and courage of the military service.

Rubio, Euripides Vietnam Era

Rank and organization: Captain, U.S. Army, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division, RVN. Place and date: Tay Ninh Province, Republic of Vietnam, November 8, 1966. Entered service at: Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico. Born: March 1, 1938, Ponce, Puerto Rico. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Capt. Rubio, Infantry, was serving as communications officer, 1st Battalion, when a numerically superior enemy force launched a massive attack against the battalion defense position. Intense enemy machinegun fire raked the area while mortar rounds and rifle grenades exploded within the perimeter. Leaving the relative safety of his post, Capt. Rubio received 2 serious wounds as he braved the withering fire to go to the area of most intense action where he distributed ammunition,

re-established positions, and rendered aid to the wounded. Disregarding the painful wounds, he unhesitatingly assumed command when a rifle company commander was medically evacuated. Capt. Rubio was wounded a third time as he selflessly exposed himself to the devastating enemy fire to move among his men to encourage them to fight with renewed effort. While aiding the evacuation of wounded personnel, he noted that a smoke grenade which was intended to mark the Viet Cong position for air strikes had fallen dangerously close to the friendly lines. Capt. Rubio ran to reposition the grenade but was immediately struck to his knees by enemy fire. Despite his several wounds, Capt. Rubio scooped up the grenade, ran through the deadly hail of fire to within 20 meters of the enemy position, and hurled the already smoking grenade into the midst of the enemy before he fell for the final time. Using the repositioned grenade as a marker, friendly air strikes were directed to destroy the hostile positions. Capt. Rubio's



singularly heroic act turned the tide of battle, and his extraordinary leadership and valor were a magnificent inspiration to his men. His remarkable bravery and selfless concern for his men are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on Capt. Rubio and the U.S. Army.



Santiago-Colon, Hector
Vietnam Era

Rank and organization: Specialist Fourth Class, U.S. Army, Company B, 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division (airmobile). Place and date: Quang Tri Province, Republic of Viet-

nam, June 28, 1968. Entered service at: New York, N.Y. Born: December 20, 1942, Salinas, Puerto Rico. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. SP4. Santiago-Colon distinguished himself at the cost of his life while serving as a gunner in the mortar platoon of Company B. While serving as a perimeter sentry, SP4. Santiago-Colon heard distinct movement in the heavily wooded area to his front and flanks. Immediately he alerted his fellow sentries in the area to move to their foxholes and remain alert for any enemy probing forces. From the wooded area around his position, heavy enemy automatic weapons and small-arms fire suddenly broke out, but extreme darkness rendered difficult the precise location and identification of the hostile force. Only the muzzle flashes from enemy weapons indicated their positions. SP4. Santiago-Colon and the other members of

his position immediately began to repel the attackers, utilizing handgrenades, antipersonnel mines, and small arms fire. Due to the heavy volume of enemy fire and exploding grenades around them, a North Vietnamese soldier was able to crawl, undetected, to their position. Suddenly, the enemy soldier lobbed a handgrenade into SP4. Santiago-Colon's foxhole. Realizing that there was not time to throw the grenades, he tucked it in to his stomach and, turning away from his comrades, absorbed the full impact of the blast. His heroic self-sacrifice saved the lives of those who occupied the foxhole with him, and provided them with the inspiration to continue fighting until they had forced the enemy to retreat from the perimeter. By his gallantry at the cost of his life and in the highest traditions of the military service, SP4. Santiago-Colon has reflected great credit upon himself, his unit, and the U.S. Army.

Yabes, Maximo
Vietnam Era

Rank and organization: First Sergeant, U.S. Army, Company A, 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division. Place and date: Near Phu Hoa Dong, Republic of Vietnam, February 26, 1967. Entered service at: Eugene, Oreg. Born: January 29, 1932, Lodi, Calif. Citation: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. 1st Sgt. Yabes distinguished himself with Company A. Early in the morning the company suddenly came under intense automatic weapons and mortar fire followed by a battalion sized assault from 3 sides. The command post received increasingly heavy fire and was in danger of being overwhelmed. When several enemy grenades landed within the command post, 1st Sgt. Yabes shouted a warning and used his body as a shield to protect others in the bunker. Although painfully wounded, he remained there to provide

covering fire and enabled the others in the command group to relocate. When the command group had reached a new position, 1st Sgt. Yabes moved through a withering hail of enemy fire to another bunker 50 meters away. There he secured a grenade launched from a fallen comrade and fired point blank into the attacking Viet Cong, stopping further penetration of the perimeter. Noting 2 wounded men helpless in the fire-swept area, he moved them to a safer position. He resumed his accurate and effective fire, killing several enemy soldiers and forcing others to withdraw from the vicinity of the command post. As the battle continued, he observed an enemy machinegun within the perimeter which threatened the whole position. He dashed across the exposed area, assaulted the machinegun, killed the crew, destroyed the weapon, and fell mortally wounded. 1st Sgt. Yabes' valiant and selfless actions saved the lives of many of his fellow soldiers and inspired his comrades to effectively repel the enemy as-



sault. His indomitable fighting spirit, extraordinary courage and intrepidity at the cost of his life are in the highest military traditions and reflect great credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of his country.



Vargas, Jay R., Jr.
Vietnam Era

Rank and organization: Major (then Capt.), U.S. Marine Corps, Company G, 2d Battalion, 4th Marines, 9th Marine Amphibious Brigade. Place and date: Dai Do, Republic of Vietnam, April 30 to May 2, 1968. Entered service at: Winslow, Ariz. Born: July 29, 1940, Winslow, Ariz. Cita-

tion: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as Commanding Officer, Company G, in action against enemy forces from April 30 to May 2, 1968. On May 1, 1968, though suffering from wounds he had incurred while relocating his unit under heavy enemy fire the preceding day, Maj. Vargas combined Company G with two other companies and led his men on an attack on the fortified village of Dai Do. Exercising expert leadership, he maneuvered his marines across 700 meters of open rice paddy while under intense enemy mortar, rocket, and artillery fire and obtained a foothold in 2 hedgerows in the enemy perimeter, only to have elements of his company become pinned down by the intense enemy fire. Leading his reserve platoon to the aid of his beleaguered men, Maj. Vargas inspired his men to renew their relentless advance, while destroying a number of enemy bunkers. Again wounded by grenade fragments, he refused aid as he moved about the hazardous area, reorganizing his unit into a strong defense

perimeter at the edge of the village. Shortly after the objective was secured, the enemy commenced a series of counterattacks and probes which lasted throughout the night but were unsuccessful as the gallant defenders of Company G stood firm in their hard-won enclave. Reinforced the following morning, the marines launched a renewed assault through Dai Do on the village of Dinh To, to which the enemy retaliated with a massive counterattack resulting in hand-to-hand combat. Maj. Vargas remained in the open, encouraging and rendering assistance to his marines when he was hit for the third time in the 3-day battle. Observing his battalion commander sustain a serious wound, he disregarded his excruciating pain, crossed the fire-swept area and carried his commander to a covered position, then resumed supervising and encouraging his men while simultaneously assisting in organizing the battalion's perimeter defense. His gallant actions uphold the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the U.S. Naval Service.



The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of the Congress the Medal of Honor to

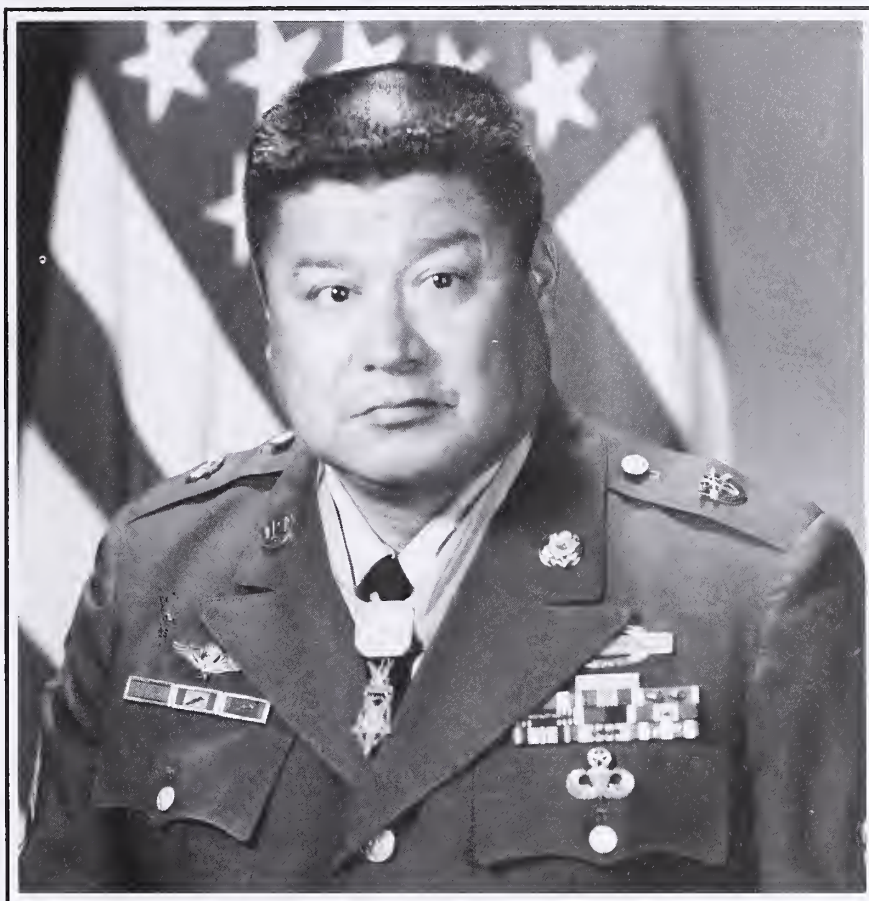
**Master Sergeant Roy P. Benavidez
United States Army, Retired
Vietnam Era**

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. On May 2, 1968, Master Sergeant (then Staff Sergeant) Roy P. Benavidez distinguished himself by a series of daring and extremely valorous actions while assigned to Detachment B-56, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, Republic of Vietnam. On the morning of May 2, 1968, a 12-man special Forces Reconnaissance Team was inserted by helicopters in a dense jungle area west of Loc Ninh, Vietnam to gather intelligence information about confirmed large-scale enemy activity. This area was controlled and routinely patrolled by the North Vietnamese Army. After a short period of time on the ground, the team met heavy enemy resistance, and requested emergency extraction. Three helicopters attempted extraction, but were unable to land due to intense enemy small arms and anti-aircraft fire. Sergeant Benavidez was at the Forward Operating Base in Loc Ninh monitoring the operation by radio when these helicopters returned to off-load wounded crew members and to assess aircraft damage. Sergeant

Benavidez voluntarily boarded a returning aircraft to assist in another extraction attempt. Realizing that all the team members were either dead or wounded and unable to move to the pickup zone, he directed the aircraft to a nearby clearing where he jumped from the hovering helicopter, and ran approximately 75 meters under withering small arms fire to the crippled team. Prior to reaching the team's position, he was wounded in his right leg, face, and head. Despite these painful injuries, he took charge, repositioning the team members and directing their fire to facilitate the landing of an extraction aircraft, and the loading of wounded and dead team members. He then threw smoke canisters to direct the aircraft to the team's position. Despite his severe wounds and under intense enemy fire, he carried and dragged half of the wounded team members to the awaiting aircraft. He then provided protective fire by running alongside the aircraft as it moved to pick up the remaining team members. As the enemy's fire intensified, he hurried to recover the body and the classified documents on the dead team leader. When he reached the team leader's body, Sergeant Benavidez was severely wounded by small arms fire in the

abdomen and grenade fragments in his back. At nearly the same moment, the aircraft pilot was mortally wounded, and his helicopter crashed. Although in extremely critical condition due to his multiple wounds, Sergeant Benavidez secured the classified documents and made his way back to the wreckage, where he aided the wounded out of the overturned aircraft, and gathered the stunned survivors into a defensive perimeter. Under increasing enemy automatic weapons and grenade fire, he moved around the perimeter distributing water and ammunition to his weary men, reinstalling in them a will to live and fight. Facing a build-up of enemy opposition with a beleaguered team, Sergeant Benavidez mustered his strength, and began calling in tactical air strikes and directing the fire from supporting gunships to suppress the enemy's fire and so permit another extraction attempt. He was wounded again in his thigh by small arms fire while administering first aid to a wounded team member just before another extraction helicopter was able to land. His indomitable spirit kept him going as he began to ferry his comrades to the craft. On his second trip with the wounded, he was clubbed from behind by an enemy soldier. In the ensuing hand-to-hand combat, he sustained ad-

ditional wounds to his head and arms before killing his adversary. He then continued under devastating fire to carry the wounded to the helicopter. Upon reaching the aircraft, he spotted and killed two enemy soldiers who were rushing the craft from an angle that prevented the aircraft door gunner from firing upon them. With little strength remaining, he made one last trip to the perimeter to ensure that all classified material had been collected or destroyed, and to bring in the remaining wounded. Only then, in extremely serious condition from numerous wounds and loss of blood, did he allow himself to be pulled into the extraction aircraft. Sergeant Benavidez' gallant choice to join voluntarily his comrades who were in critical straits, to expose himself constantly to withering enemy fire, and his refusal to be stopped despite numerous severe wounds, saved the lives of at least eight men. His fearless personal leadership, tenacious devotion to duty, and extremely valorous actions in the face of overwhelming odds were in keeping with highest traditions of the military service, and reflect the utmost credit on him and the United States Army.



Master Sergeant Roy P. Benavidez, USA (Ret.)

U.S. Army Photograph 190416

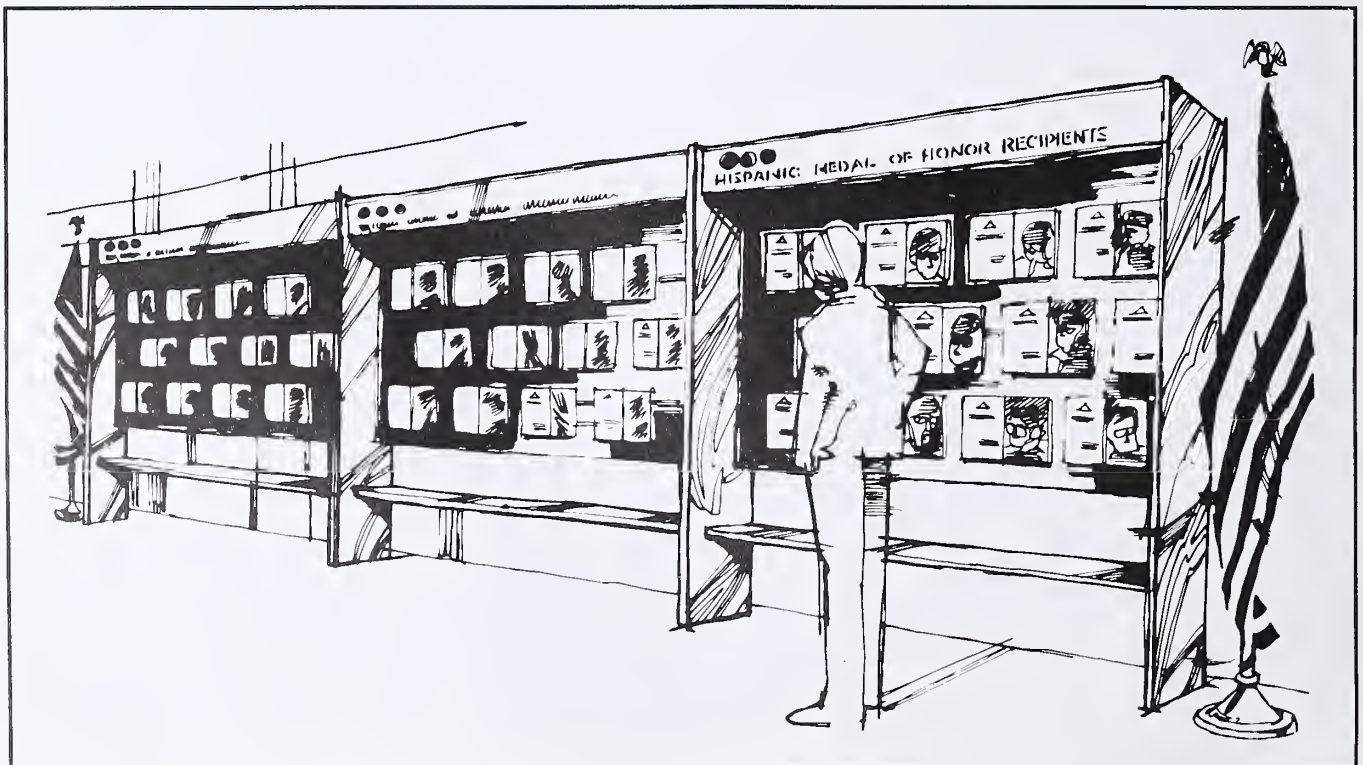
Hispanic Medal of Honor Recipients Display

As part of the 1980 National Hispanic Heritage Week Ceremony, the Department of Defense honored Hispanic-American Medal of Honor recipients. These valiant Hispanic-Americans, whose heroism, intrepid actions, and devotion to their country, deserve the honor of all Americans. In their honor a picture display (shown below) and a large banner were commissioned by DoD.

The Hispanic American Medal of Honor recipients display includes photographs, biographical sketches, and citations for each recipient. This display was requested for use at the Third Annual Congressional Hispanic Caucus dinner along with a large banner (20' x 2.5') which was used as a back drop for the speaker's podium.

The colored banner illustrates the three Armed Services Medals of Honor and the names of each Hispanic-American recipient.

This exhibit is on permanent display at the Pentagon.



A Special Tribute

Hispanic Hostages During the Takeover of the U.S. Embassy in Iran

On November 4, 1979, approximately 500 Moslem "students" stormed the American embassy in Tehran and seized 90 hostages. They demanded that the deposed Shah be returned to Iran from New York to stand trial. The American Government refused.

Negotiations continued in the glare of publicity until an agreement was finally achieved on January 20, 1981. Among the hostages freed that day were two Hispanic Marines, members of the Embassy's security guard. They had endured physical deprivation, psychological tension, and actual beatings. Through it all, they maintained themselves in an exemplary fashion. Their endurance and bravery should be an inspiration to all.



Born: May 21, 1958, Globe, Ariz. Entered USMC: April 29, 1977, Phoenix, Ariz. Expiration of active service: Feb. 28, 1982. Home of record: Globe, Ariz. Parents: Jesus Rojas and Mary Helen Lopez of Globe, Ariz. Military service: Received his recruit training at MCRD, San Diego in April 1977 and was assigned duties with the U.S. Army Military Police

School in Fort McClellan, Alabama, and Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California, prior to applying for the Marine Security Guard Program. He attended the Marine Security Guard School and, following graduation in October 1979, was assigned to Company B, Marine Security Guard Battalion, American Embassy, Tehran, Iran.

Sgt. J.M. Lopez, USMC



Born: Sept. 12, 1958, Pueblo, Colo. Entered USMC: July 20, 1977, Denver, Colo. Parents: Jose Pedro and Maria Theresa Gallegos of Pueblo, Colo. Military service: Enlisted in the USMCR for 6 years on July 7, 1977. He received his recruit training at MCRD, San Diego, and performed duties with Headquarters Battalion, Marine Corps Logistic Support Base,

Barstow, California, and Company Supply, 3rd Supply Battalion, 3rd Force Support Service Group, Okinawa, prior to applying for the Marine Security Guard Program. He attended the Marine Security School and, following graduation in July 1979, was assigned duties with Company B, Marine Security Guard Battalion, American Embassy, Tehran, Iran.

Cpl. W. Gallegos, USMC

A Special Tribute

Hispanic Officer Killed in Action in Libya

An F-111 aircraft departed RAF Lakenheath Air Force Base, England, on April 15, 1986, for a combat mission over Libya. The aircraft was downed in the southern Mediterranean Sea off the coast of Libya by hostile fire, and the crew members were reported missing in action. An air search over Mediterranean waters was immediately initiated. Major Ribas-Dominicci was continued in a missing status until April 16, 1986, when his missing status was changed to killed in action at the time of the incident.

At the time of his death, Major Fernando L. Ribas-Dominicci was assigned to the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing, RAF Lakenheath, UK. He was killed during a combat mission in an F-111F fighter-bomber off the coast of Libya in April 1986.

The Major was born in Utuado, Puerto Rico, in 1952 and was graduated from San Miguel High School in Utuado in 1970. He attended the University of Puerto Rico in Mayaguez, where he received a degree in Civil Engineering. He later completed his Master's Degree in Aeronautical Science at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Bunnell, Florida, in 1985.

He entered Undergraduate Flying Training at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, in June 1976. Following graduation, he was assigned to Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico, from

July 1977 to February 1983. He held numerous flying positions in the F-111D at Cannon including: pilot weapon systems officer; aircraft commander; training officer; chief of scheduling and training; and standardization and evaluation flight examiner.

In March 1983, Major Ribas-Dominicci was transferred to RAF Lakenheath, UK, where he flew the F-111F. While at Lakenheath, he became an F-111F aircraft commander, a flight instructor, and a standardization and evaluation flight examiner.

He graduated from Squadron Officer School at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, in 1982 and completed Air Command and Staff College by seminar in 1984. He was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal in 1983 and will be decorated posthumously for his participation in the raid on Libyan territory in which he lost his life. He

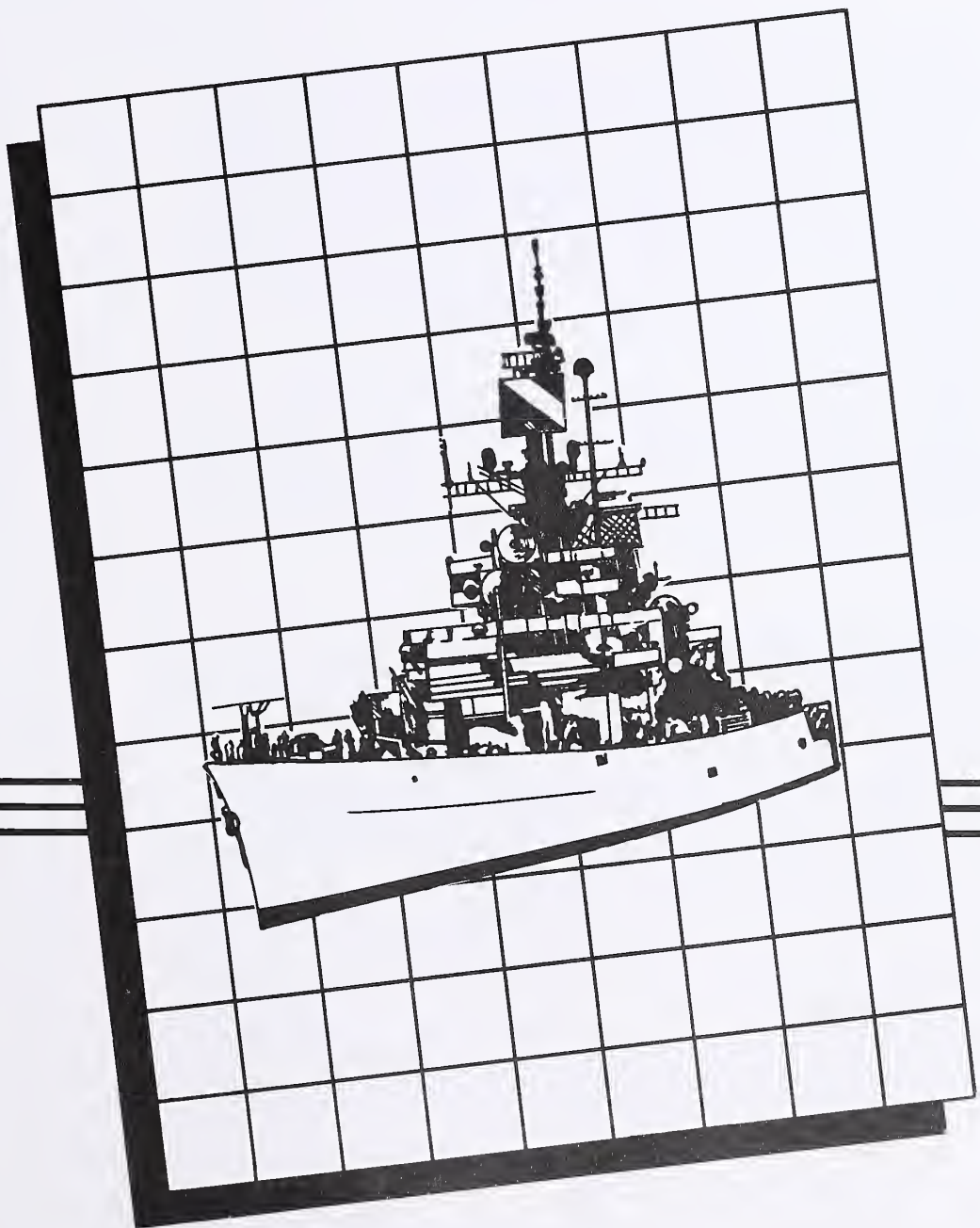


Major Fernando L. Ribas-Dominicci
United States Air Force

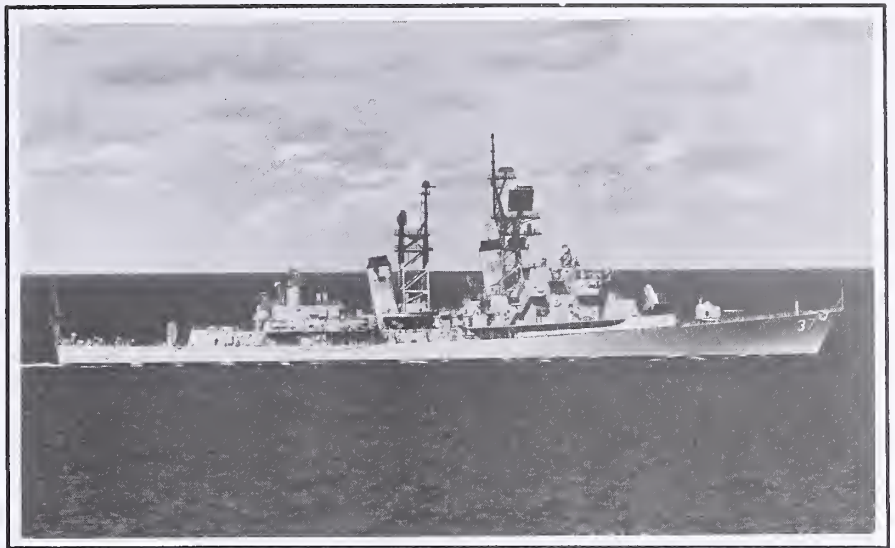
was posthumously promoted to the grade of Major effective April 15, 1986.

He is survived by his wife, Blanca, and a son, Fernando.

A Salute to Navy Ships Christened in Honor of Hispanics



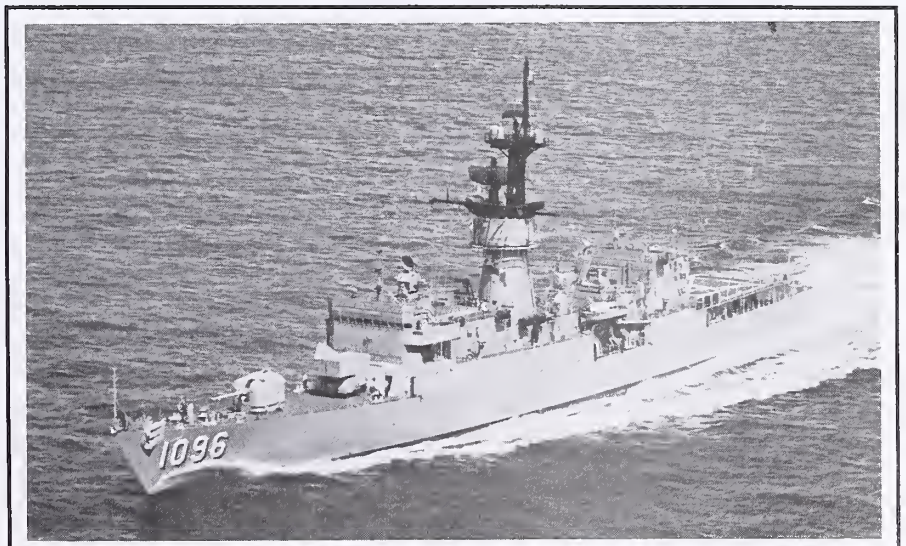
The practice of naming ships after prominent persons and American cities has been a long-standing tradition in the Navy. The cultural and military contributions of Hispanics to this Nation have not been overlooked in this process. Below are featured six ships and three submarines, currently on duty with the Navy around the world which pay homage to our Hispanic American heritage.



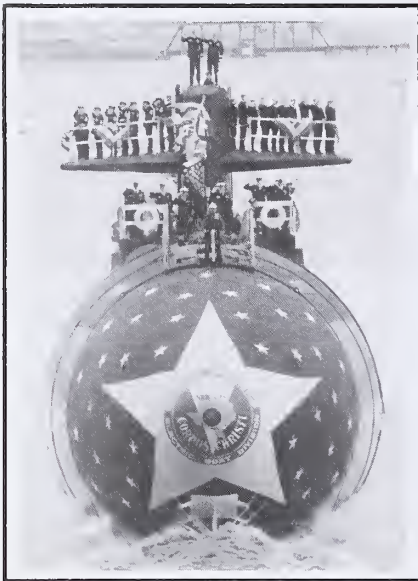
Guided missile destroyer USS Farragut, DDG-37



Escort ship USS Garcia, DE-1040



Escort ship USS Valdez, DE-1096



Nuclear powered attack submarine USS City of Corpus Christi, SSN-705



Nuclear powered fleet ballistic missile submarine USS Mariano G. Vallejo, SSBN-658



USS San Juan SSN-715



Amphibious cargo ship USS El Paso, LKA-117

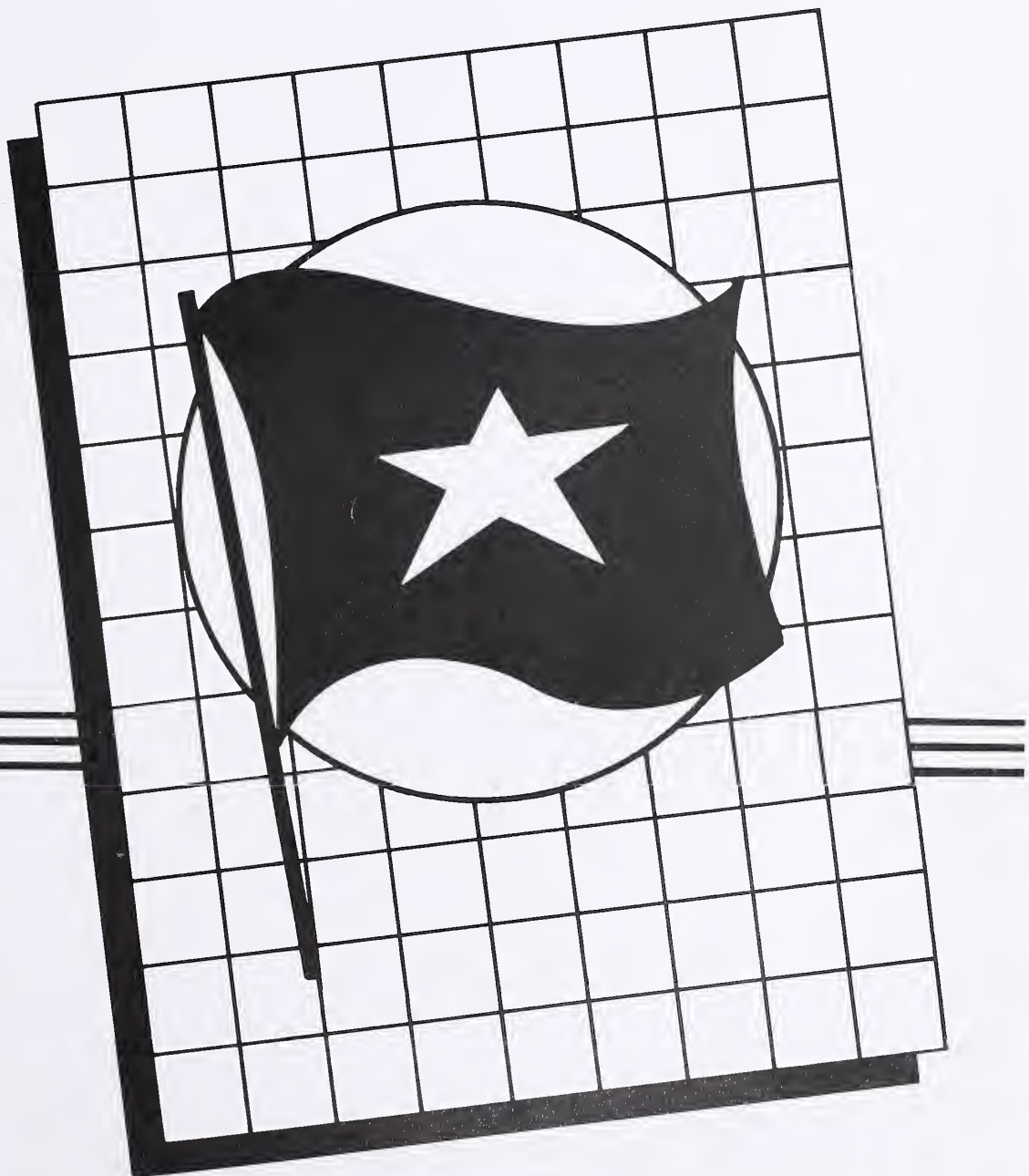


Combat storeship USS San Jose, AFS-7



World War II light cruiser USS San Juan, CL-54

Hispanic American Generals and Flag Officers by Military Service



Special Tribute



A Tribute to Admiral Horacio Rivero, the First Hispanic Four Star Admiral in the Navy.

Admiral Rivero was born on May 16, 1910, in Ponce, Puerto Rico. A distinguished graduate of the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, he placed third in his class of 441 members. He was commissioned an Ensign on June 4, 1931.

Admiral Rivero's first assignment was on board the heavy cruiser *USS Northampton*, where he served as a junior officer in the gunnery department. From 1932–1936, he served in a variety of duties aboard the heavy cruiser *USS Chicago* and the battleships *USS New Mexico*, *USS California*, and *USS Pennsylvania*.

In 1938, Admiral Rivero returned to the United States. He attended the Naval Postgraduate School and the Mas-

sachusetts Institute of Technology, where he received a Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering in 1940. Upon graduation, he served in several Navy Department staff positions before returning to sea.

In January 1942, shortly after the United States entered World War II, Admiral Rivero was ordered to duty in connection with fitting out the light cruiser, *USS San Juan*. He served as the ship's Assistant Gunnery Officer and participated in the landings at Guadalcanal-Tulagi, a lone raid on the Gilbert Islands, the Battle of Santa Cruz Islands, the attack on Bougainville in the Solomons, the capture of the Gilbert Islands, a series of carrier raids on Rabaul, and in the attacks on Kwajalein in the Marshalls.

Admiral Rivero returned to the United States in 1944 and was reassigned as the Gunnery Officer of the heavy cruiser *USS Pittsburgh*. On the ship, he participated in the Iwo Jima and Okinawa campaigns and in the first carrier raids on Tokyo. On June 5, 1945, during operations against the enemy in the vicinity of Nansei Shoto, a severe typhoon struck ships of the U.S. fleet in the area, damaging several of them. The *USS Pittsburgh* suffered the most severe damage, losing its bow. The precautionary measure of setting complete closure in Damage Control was instrumental in preventing casualties. The ship proceeded to port under its own steam where a new bow was fabricated and installed so that it could travel to the United States for permanent repairs. Admiral Rivero was awarded the Legion of Merit for his actions in preventing loss of life and in saving the ship.

In 1948, Admiral Rivero participated in the atomic weapons test at Eniwetok. In 1954, he was designated Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations. In 1955, he was promoted to Rear Admiral. In 1962, he was promoted to Vice Admiral and assumed command of Amphibious Force, Atlantic Fleet. In this capacity, he commanded ships in the naval "quarantine" of Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

In 1963, Admiral Rivero reported as Director of Navy Program Planning, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations where he instituted a new management system for program planning. He was promoted to Admiral and became Vice Chief of Naval Operations in 1964. In 1968, he commanded NATO forces as Commander in Chief of Allied Forces, Southern Europe. On June 1, 1972, Admiral Rivero retired after 41 years of distinguished service. He was later named as U.S. Ambassador to Spain.

A Tribute to General Richard E. Cavazos, Commanding General, FORSCOM and the First Hispanic Four Star General in the Army.

General Richard E. Cavazos, USA (Retired)



General Cavazos was born on January 31, 1929, in Kingsville, Texas. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology from Texas Technological University and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant through the ROTC program on June 15, 1951.

During his over 30 years of military service, he attended the basic and advanced courses of the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia; the United States Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; plus the British Army and the Armed Forces Staff Colleges. He also completed the course of instruction at the U.S. Army War College.

In 1967, he commanded the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry regiment in Vietnam. In 1968 and 1969, he worked with the Army Combat Developments Command Institute of Advanced Studies and served as a faculty member of the

Army Command and General Staff College as Chief of the Offense Section.

General Cavazos resumed command duties when he took over the 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, in 1970, a position he held for two years. He then worked in the Pentagon for a year before serving for two years as the U.S. Defense and Army Attache at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico.

From August 1975 to May 1976, he returned to troop duty as the Assistant Division Commander of the 2nd Armored Division at Fort Hood, Texas. He then moved to the Pentagon for a second tour before becoming the Commanding General of the 9th Infantry Division and Post Commander of Fort Lewis, Washington.

In February 1980, General Cavazos returned to Fort Hood as the Commanding General, III Corps, a position he held for

two years. From March 1, 1982 to June 17, 1984, General Cavazos was Commander of the United States Armed Forces Command, at Fort McPherson, Georgia. Under his command, combat troops were deployed to Grenada. General Cavazos was noted for the outstanding manner in which FORSCOM troops performed during the Grenada Intervention. After a brilliant tour at U.S. Armed Forces Command, he retired in June 1984.

During his outstanding and distinguished military career, General Cavazos has received the following decorations: Distinguished Service Cross with oak leaf cluster; Silver Star with oak leaf cluster; Defense Superior Service Medal; Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster; Distinguished Flying Cross; Bronze Star Medal with V device with four oak leaf clusters; Meritorious Service Medal; Air Medal with V device; Joint Service Commendation Medal; Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters; and Purple Heart.



Brigadier General Luis R. Esteves, ARNG (Deceased)

A Tribute to Brigadier General Luis R. Esteves, First Puerto Rican Graduate of West Point and Founder of the Puerto Rican National Guard

General Esteves was a pioneer in more than one way. He was the first Puerto Rican to graduate from the United States Military Academy. He was also the first to see the necessity of a National Guard organization on the Island immediately following World War I. His efforts with the Governor and the Legislature led to the organization of the Puerto Rico National Guard in 1919. Following his tradition of doing first things, he was the first of the 1915 West Point Class to become a general officer, ahead of his class mates Generals Eisenhower, Bradley, Van Fleet and McNamey.

Esteves was 5 years old at the time of the American occupation of Puerto Rico in 1898. In 1907, having completed his elementary schooling in his home town, Aguadilla, which was as high as he could go there at the time, his parents sent him to

Mayaguez for his secondary education. While in his last year his mother regretfully informed him that previous plans to send him to study for an engineering career in the United States had to be dropped. The family had grown too large while the home finances had remained in status quo.

A few days later he ran into a news item announcing examinations for entry into West Point. Without his parents' knowledge, he filed an application, passed the required tests, and was accepted.

His first few months at the Academy were difficult due to his limited knowledge of the English language. He was quick, however, to overcome the difficulty and four years later he was graduated with the class that years later was to be known as the Class of the Generals.

His first assignment was with the 23rd Infantry in Texas City. During the "Pancho Villa Incident," he was sent to El Paso and then to the town of Polvo in Mexico, where he was appointed mayor

and judge by the local citizens. In El Paso, he met the girl who was later to become Mrs. Esteves, Senorita Guadalupe Navarro, an American citizen of Mexican extraction.

The entry of the United States into World War I, the application of the draft laws to Puerto Rico, and his knowledge of the Spanish language brought Esteves back to his native Island to serve as instructor at the Officers' Training Camps that were established soon afterwards. He was instructor or commander of three of these camps, which produced all of the officers who led the more than 20,000 men trained in Puerto Rico during that conflict.

Following the war, Major Esteves was transferred to the State of Washington, but due to the sickness of his wife and a medical admonition that residence in a cold climate might be fatal to her, he was forced to resign his commission in the Regular Army—something he regretted to the last day of his life.

As stated previously, General Esteves organized the first units of the Puerto Rico National Guard in 1919, commanding its first battalion and its first regiment. When a second regiment was added, he commanded both units. Then in 1937, he was made Adjutant General, a position he held until his retirement in June 1957.

General Esteves was a man of many interests. Military history was his main hobby. The Military Museum at National Guard headquarters in San Juan is a mute witness of his untiring efforts to collect mementos of the glorious deeds of the conquerors of the New World. He was a writer of notes, specializing in travel chronicles and military treatises. His humorous stories about soldiers' lives, about which he published two books, are among the best ever written in any language.

He was also a great connoisseur of art in all its manifestations. He died on March 12, 1958, after a short illness, in San Juan, Puerto Rico at age 64.



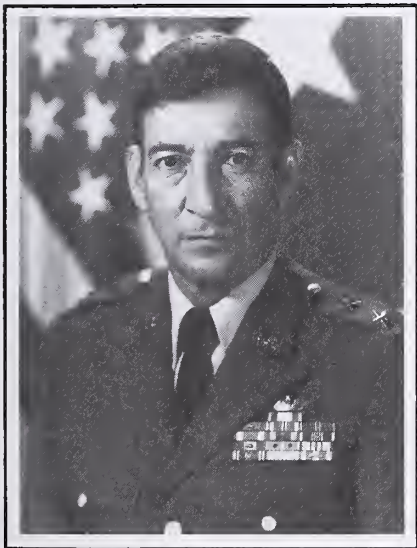
Hispanic American General Officers in the Army and Army Reserve



General Cavazos was born on January 31, 1929, in Kingsville, Texas. He received a BS degree in Geology from Texas Technological University. His military decorations and badges include: Distinguished Service Cross with oak leaf cluster; Silver Star with oak leaf cluster; Defense Superior Service Medal; Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster; Distinguished Flying Cross; Bronze Star Medal with V device with four oak leaf clusters; Air Medals with V device; Joint Service Commendation Medal; Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters; Purple Heart; Combat Infantryman Badge (two Awards); Parachutist Badge; and the Ranger Tab.



General Richard E. Cavazos, USA (Retired)



Major General Orlando E. Gonzales, USA

General Gonzales was born on December 20, 1930, in Model, Colorado. He received a BS degree in Business Administration from St. Benedict's College and an MBA degree from Auburn University. His military decorations and badges include: Air Force Distinguished Service Medal; Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster; Distinguished Flying Cross; Bronze Star Medal; Meritorious Service Medal; Air Medals; Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster; and the Senior Army Aviator Badge.





**Major General Enrique Mendez, Jr., USA
(Retired)**

General Mendez was born on July 15, 1931, in Santurce, Puerto Rico. He received a BS degree in Biology from the University of Puerto Rico and an MD degree in Doctor of Medicine from Loyola University. His military decorations and badges include: Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster; Army Commendation Medal; and Expert Field Medical Badge.



General Perez was born in Cuevas del Almanzora, Almeria, Spain, on December 15, 1908. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mining Engineering and a Master of Science degree in Metallurgy from the University of Arizona. His military decorations and awards include: the Distinguished Service Cross; Silver Star; Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster; Bronze Star Medal with four oak leaf clusters; Joint Services Commendation Medal; Army Commenda-

tion Medal; Purple Heart; American Defense Service Medal; American Campaign Medal; Asia-Pacific Campaign Medal with four campaign stars and arrow head; Philippine Liberation Medal; World War II Victory Medal; Army of Occupation Medal; Distinguished Unit Citation with two oak leaf clusters; National Defense Service Medal; Korean Service Medal with six campaign stars; United Nations Service Medal; Combat Infantry Badge with second award; Parachute Badge; Philippine Independence Ribbon; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Philippine Presidential United Citation; Korean Presidential Unit Citation; Order of Boyaca (Columbia) in grade of Commander; Military order of Antonio Narino (Colombia) in grade of Commander; Medal of Military Merit (Chile); Order of Vasco Nunez de Balboa (Panama) in grade of Commander; and the Military Order of Ayacucho (Peru) in grade of Officer.



Major General Gines Perez, USA (Deceased)



Brigadier General Bombel was born on July 23, 1940, in Nogales, Arizona. He received a BS degree in Foreign Trade from the University of Arizona and an MA degree in Foreign Languages/Literature from Middlebury College. His military decorations include: Legion of Merit; Bronze Star Medal with two oak leaf clusters; Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters; Air Medal; Army Commendation Medal; and an Army Achievement Medal.



Brigadier General George A. Bombel



Brigadier General Cisneros was born on April 5, 1939, in Brownsville, Texas. He received a BBA degree in Accounting/Auditing from Saint Mary's University and an MS degree in Public Administration from Shippensburg State College. His military decorations and badges include: Legion of Merit; Bronze Star Medal with oak leaf cluster; Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters; and an Air Medal.



Brigadier General Marc A. Cisneros



Major General Santoni was born on June 15, 1934, in Arecibo, Puerto Rico. He received a BS degree in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. His military decorations and badges include: Army Commendation Medal; Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Army Service Ribbon; and Overseas Service Ribbon.



Major General Felix A. Santoni, USAR



Major General Angelo D. Juarez, USAR

General Juarez was born in Chicago, Illinois, on February 9, 1930. He received a BA degree in Business from Governors State in Park Forest South, Illinois. His military decorations and awards include: the Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with 10-year device; Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal; Korean Service Medal with one bronze star; United Nations Service Medal; and National Defense Service Medal.





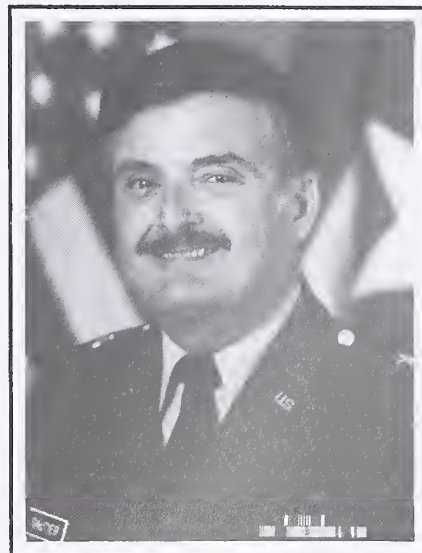
Brigadier General Aviles was born on February 17, 1932, in Ponce, Puerto Rico. He received a BS degree in Civil Engineering from A&M College of Texas, and a Ph.D. degree in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University. His military decorations and badges include: Legion of Merit; Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster; Army Commendation Medal; Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Army Service Ribbon; Overseas Service Ribbon; and Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon.



Brigadier General Dionel E. Aviles, USAR



General Gautier was born in Santurce, Puerto Rico, on September 5, 1932. He received a BA degree in Architecture from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. His military decorations and awards include: the National Defense Service Medal; the Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster; and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal.



Brigadier General Augusto R. Gautier, USAR



**Brigadier General Aureliano Rivas-Flores,
Jr., USAR (Retired)**

General Rivas was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on December 1, 1923. He received a BS degree from the University of Puerto Rico in 1946, and a Doctorate of Medicine degree from the Temple University School of Medicine in 1948. General Rivas received a Urology Certificate from the Graduate School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, in 1950 and was certified by the American Board of Urology in 1956.



**Brigadier General Antonio
Rodriguez-Balinas, USAR (Retired)**

General Rodriguez-Balinas was born in Adjuntas, Puerto Rico, on February 27, 1928. He received a BA degree in Economics and a Doctorate of Law degree from the University of Puerto Rico. His military decorations and awards include: the Silver Star with one oak leaf cluster; Army Commendation Medal; Purple Heart with one oak leaf cluster; National Defense Service Medal; United Nations Service Medal; Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation; Korean Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal; Combat Infantry Badge; and Parachutist Badge.

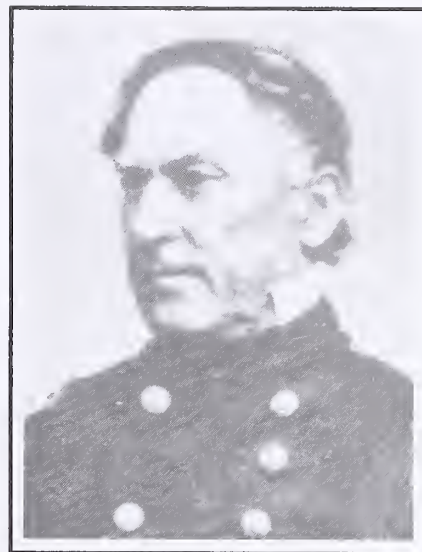




Hispanic American Flag and General Officers in the Navy



Admiral Farragut was born in Campbell's Station, Tennessee, on July 5, 1801. He was appointed Admiral of the Navy on July 26, 1866, after a brilliant career during the Civil War. A more complete summary of his accomplishments is contained in the section on the Civil War overview chapter on Hispanic military heritage at the front of this book.



Admiral David G. Farragut, USN (Deceased)



Admiral Horacio Rivero, USN (Retired)

Admiral Rivero was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico, on May 16, 1910. He received a BS degree from the United States Naval Academy and an MS degree in Electrical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His military decorations and awards include: the Distinguished Service Medal with two gold stars; Legion of Merit with gold star; Bronze Star Medal with combat V; Navy Commendation Medal; American Defense Service Medal; Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal; American Campaign Medal; World War II Victory Medal; National Defense Service Medal with bronze star; Korean Service Medal; the United



Nations Service Medal; Order of Abdon Calderon (Equador); and the Order of Merito Naval (Brazil).



Vice Admiral Hernandez was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on March 25, 1934. He received a BS degree from the Illinois Institute of Technology and an MS degree in International Affairs from George Washington University. His military decorations and awards include: the Silver Star; Legion of Merit; Distinguished Flying Cross; Meritorious Service Medal with gold star; 10 Air Medals; Navy Commendation Medal with combat V and two gold stars; and the Purple Heart.



Vice Admiral Diego E. Hernandez, USN



Admiral Flores was born January 25, 1930, in San Francisco, California. He attended St. Mary's College in Moraga, California, where he was graduated with a BS degree in Business Administration and Economics. His medals include: the Meritorious Service Medal; the Navy Commendation Medal; the American Defense Medal; and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.



Rear Admiral Joseph L. Flores, USN
(Retired)



Admiral Gomez was born September 27, 1936, in Brooklyn, New York. He graduated from St. John's University in 1958 with a BA degree in History. In 1975, Admiral Gomez received an MSA degree in Business Administration from George Washington University. His military decorations and awards include: Legion of Merit; Meritorious Service Medal; Navy Commendation Medal with gold star (in lieu of subsequent award); Joint Service Commendation; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Vietnam Service Medal with four bronze stars; and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.



Rear Admiral Alvaro R. Gomez, USN



Academy in 1958. He graduated from the Armed Forces Staff College in 1969 and the National War College in 1978. In 1978, he received an MS degree in International Affairs from George Washington University. Admiral Hernandez' military decorations and awards include: Legion of Merit; Meritorious Service Medal with one gold star (in lieu of second award); Air Medal with numeral one; Meritorious Unit Commendation; National Defense Service Medal; Vietnam Service Medal with one bronze star; and Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation (Civil Actions Color).



Rear Admiral Jessee J. Hernandez, USN

Admiral Hernandez was born on September 22, 1935, in Oakland, California. He received a BS degree in Naval Science from the U.S. Naval



Rear Admiral Benjamin F. Montoya, Civil Engineer Corps, USN

Admiral Montoya was born on May 24, 1935, in Indio, California. He graduated with a BS degree in Naval Science from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1958. He received a BCE degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1960, and an MSSE from Georgia Institute of Technology in 1968. Admiral Montoya's military decorations and awards include: Legion of Merit; Bronze Star Medal with combat V; Meritorious Service Medal; Navy Commendation Medal; Navy Achievement Medal; Navy Unit Commendation; National Defense Service Medal with one bronze star; Vietnam Service Medal with three bronze stars;



Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation (Civil Actions Color); and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.



Hispanic American General Officer in the Marine Corps



Australia, March 9, 1943

With one of his 105mm guns which helped blast the Japanese off Guadalcanal, Brigadier General Pedro A. del Valle, USMC, CG of the 11th Marine Regiment, watching training maneuvers.



1st Marine Division, Okinawa, April 2, 1945

Major General Pedro del Valle, center, reads a message just received from front lines. He is flanked by Col. A.E. Mason on his left and Chief of Staff Col. R.O. Bare on his right.



General del Valle was born on August 28, 1893, in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Upon graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1915, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps.

He completed a course at the Marine Officers' School in Norfolk, Virginia, and went on foreign shore duty in Haiti. In May 1916, he assisted in the capture of Santo Domingo City and in the campaign in the Republic of Santo Domingo.

Del Valle was later assigned to sea duty aboard the *USS Texas*, where he served with the British Grand Fleet during the surrender of the German High Seas Fleet. In 1919, he was detached to the Marine Barracks in Quantico, Virginia.

Following another tour of sea duty aboard the *USS Wyoming*, he served as Aide-de-Camp to Major General J.H. Pendleton and accompanied him in an inspection tour of the West Indies.

In 1924, he served as Marine Corps Representative on the Federal Traffic Board in Washington, D.C. From 1926 to 1928, he served foreign shore duty with the Gendarmerie d' Haiti.

In 1928, he returned to the United States attended the Field Officers' Course at the Marine Corps Schools in Quantico, Virginia, and became an instructor. He left this position twice on temporary duty with the U.S. Electoral Mission in Nicaragua.

He then served a tour of sea duty as Squadron Marine Officer, during which time he participated in the operations resulting from the Cuban Revolution in 1933.

From 1935 to 1937, he was Assistant Naval Attache, attached to the American Embassy in Rome, Italy, and on duty as an observer with the Italian Forces during the Ethiopian War.

He returned to the United States, attended the Army War College in Washington, D.C., and became Executive Director, Division of Plans and Policies at Headquarters Marine Corps.

In March 1941, he became Commanding Officer, Eleventh Marines (Artillery), as the United States entered into World War II. As the regiment's Commanding Officer, he led it overseas and assisted in the seizure and defense of Guadalcanal as part of the First Marine Division, reinforced, in 1942. For this, he was awarded the Legion of Merit.

From May to July 1943, he served as Commander of Marine Forces, less aviation, on Guadalcanal, Tulagi, Russel, and Florida Islands. When he returned to the United States, he became president of the Marine Corps Equipment Board.

He returned to the Pacific in April, 1944, as Commanding General, Third Corps Artillery, Third Amphibious Corps. He participated in the Guam operation in July and August, 1944, and was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of a second Legion of Merit.

He received a Distinguished Service Medal for his role as Commanding General, First Marine Division, Okinawa, from April to July 1945.

After the war, he returned to Headquarters Marine Corps and became Inspector General. On October 1, 1946, he became Director of Personnel. He retired from this position in 1948. He was commended for performance of duty in actual combat and advanced to lieutenant general on the retired list. He was named Commanding General, First Marine Division and was awarded a Distinguished Service Medal for his leadership.



Lieutenant General Pedro del Valle, USMC (Deceased)



Guadalcanal, August 11, 1942

Commanding General of the 1st Marine Division and part of his Division Staff.



Hispanic American General Officers in the Air Force and Air Force Reserve



Lieutenant General Marquez was born on January 27, 1933, in Peralta, New Mexico. He received a BS degree in Zoology from New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, and an MS degree in Business Administration

from the George Washington University in Washington, D.C. In 1978 he was named a distinguished alumnus from New Mexico State University. His military decorations and awards include: the Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster; Bronze Star Medal; Meritorious Service Medal; and Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster. He was selected as Air Force Logistics Command Systems Manager of the Year in 1974. In 1977, he was the recipient of the Air Force Association's Executive Management Award.



Lieutenant General Leo Marquez, USAF



Lieutenant General Quesada was born in Washington, D.C., on April 13, 1904. He attended Wyoming Seminary in Wikes-Barre, Pennsylvania; the University of Maryland; and Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. His military awards and decorations in-

clude: the Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster; Distinguished Flying Cross; Legion of Merit; Air Medal with two silver oak leaf clusters; Purple Heart; American Defense Ribbon; European-African-Mediterranean Theater ribbon with seven battle participation stars; British Order of the Bath (Degree of Companion); the Commander of the British Empire; the French Legion of Honor; the French Croix de Guerre with palm; Luxembourg Croix de Guerre; Order of Adophe of Nassau; the Polish Pilot's Badge; the Belgium Order of the Couronne in the grade of Commander, with aviation palm; and the Belgium Croix de Guerre with aviation palm.

Lieutenant General Elwood R. Quesada, USAF (Retired)



Brigadier General Felices was born in Santurce, Puerto Rico, on August 13, 1923. He attended the A and M College of the University of Puerto Rico until 1943 when he received a

congressional appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. He graduated from West Point on June 4, 1946. His military decorations and awards include: the Distinguished Service Medal; Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters; Distinguished Flying Cross; Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters; Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters; Army Commendation Medal; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award Ribbon with two oak leaf clusters; and the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon.



**Major General Salvador E. Felices, USAF
(Retired)**



Brigadier General Cardenas was born in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico on March 10, 1920. He attended schools in San Diego, California, and graduated from the University of New Mexico at Albuquerque in 1955 with a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering. His military decorations and awards include: the Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters; Joint Service Commendation Medal; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters; Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster; Distinguished Flying Cross; Spanish Grand Cross of the Order of Aeronautical Merit; Meritorious Service Medal; Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster; and the Purple Heart.



**Brigadier General Robert L. Cardenas, USAF
(Retired)**



Brigadier General De Leon was born on October 14, 1934, in Nogales, Arizona. He received a BS degree in Science and a Bachelor of Laws degree, both from the University of Arizona. His military decorations and awards include: Meritorious Service Medal; Joint Service Commendation Medal; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award; Air Force Organizational Excellence Award; National Defense Service Medal; Air Force Overseas Ribbon-Long; Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with four oak leaf clusters, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with hourglass device; and Air Force Training Ribbon.



Brigadier General Armando De Leon



Brigadier General Maldonado was born on February 2, 1941, in Comerio, Puerto Rico. He received a BA degree in business from the University of

Puerto Rico in 1964 and an MBA from the Inter-American University in 1969. In 1970, he completed Squadron Officer School. He completed Army Command and General Staff College in 1977, Air War College in 1982, and the Senior Executive Development Program at the University of New Hampshire in 1987. His military decorations and awards include: the Legion of Merit; Distinguished Flying Cross; Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters; Air Medal with 10 oak leaf clusters; and Air Force Commendation Medal.



Brigadier General Antonio Maldonado



Brigadier General Schimmenti was born on December 16, 1936, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She received her nursing diploma from Regina

School of Nursing in Albuquerque, a BS degree in Nursing from the University of Pittsburgh, and a Master of Public Health degree from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Her military decorations and awards include: Legion of Merit; Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster; Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award; Air Force Organization Excellence Award; National Defense Service Medal; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; and Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with five oak leaf clusters.



Brigadier General Carmelita Schimmenti, USAF



Brigadier General Segura was born in New Iberia, Louisiana, on August 6, 1921. He attended Louisiana State University and the University of Southwestern Louisiana. His military decorations and awards include: the Legion of Merit; Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak leaf clusters; Air Medal with seven oak leaf clusters; Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster; Purple Heart; Presidential Unit Citation Emblem; Venezuelan Distinguished Flying Cross; Vietnam Campaign Medal; and the Vietnam Honor Medal.



Brigadier General Wiltz Segura, USAF (Retired)



Brigadier General Ralph G. Tourino, USAF

Brigadier General Tourino was born March 11, 1941, in Los Angeles, California. He graduated from the University of California in 1964 with a BS degree in General Engineering. He earned an MS degree in Business Administration from the University of Southern California, completed Squadron Officer School in 1969, Air Command and Staff College in 1977, National Security Management in 1978, and graduated from Harvard University's program for Senior Officials in National Security in 1988. His military awards and decorations include: the Legion of Merit; Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Air Force Meritorious Service Medal; Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters; Air Force Commenda-

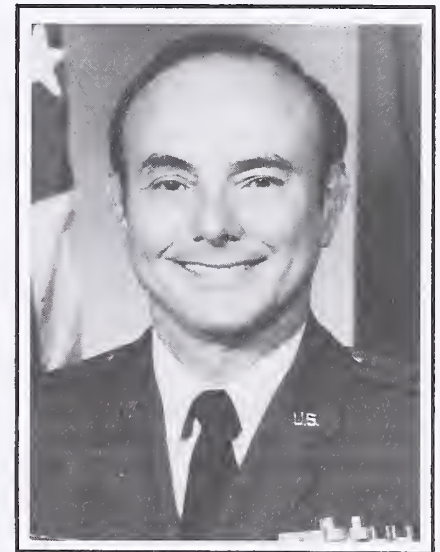


tion Medal; Vietnam Service Medal; Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross; and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. He also wears senior navigator wings, the master space badge, and the missile badge.



Brigadier General Torres was born on August 8, 1935, in Santurce, Puerto Rico. He completed premedical studies at the University of Puerto Rico and earned a BS degree at the U.S. Naval Academy. He earned master's and professional engineer's degrees in Electrical Engineering at Stanford University, and a doctorate in

Electrical Engineering and Applied Physics from Stanford University. He graduated from the U.S. Naval War College with highest distinction in 1983 and completed the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in 1984. His military decorations and awards include: the Meritorious Service Medal; Joint Service Commendation Medal; Air Force Commendation Medal; Air Force Organization Excellence Award; Air Force Recognition Ribbon; National Defense Service Medal with Service star; Air Force Overseas Ribbon-Long; Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with four oak leaf clusters; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; and Air Force Training Ribbon. He was the recipient of the Air Force Research and Development Award in 1964, and was selected as the Headquarters Air Force Reservist of the Year in 1978 and



Brigadier General Julio L. Torres

1973. In 1983, he was the U.S. Reserve Officers Association Air Force Reservist of the Year.



Hispanic American General Officers in the Army and Air National Guard



Major General Baca was born in Santa Fe, New Mexico, on July 27, 1938. He graduated from St. Michael's High School and attended the College of Santa Fe. His decorations and awards include: Meritorious Service Medal; Army Commendation Ribbon; Vietnam Service Medal; Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal; and National Guard Association Meritorious Service Award.



Major General Edward D. Baca, ARNG, The Adjutant General, New Mexico

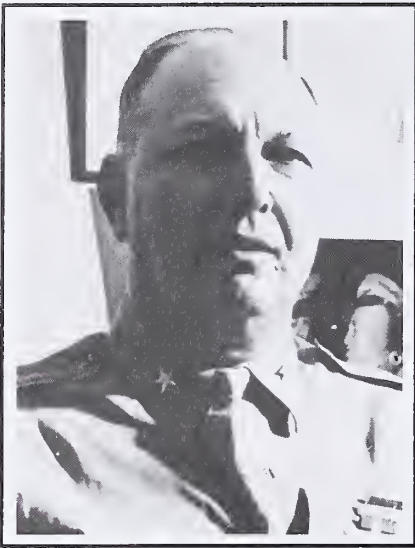


Major General Cordero was born in Carolina, Puerto Rico, on June 7, 1904. He received a BS degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Puerto Rico in 1926. His military decorations and awards include: the Silver Star; Bronze Star with four oak leaf clusters; Commendation Ribbon with medal pendant; Purple Heart; American Campaign Medal; European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal; Army of Occupation Medal; World War II Victory Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Korean Service Medal; United Nations Service Medal; Combat Infantryman Badge with one



star; Puerto Rico National Guard Distinguished Medal; and the Puerto Rico National Guard Service Medal.

Major General Juan Cesar Cordero, ARNG, The Adjutant General, Puerto Rico (Deceased)



Major General Luis R. Esteves, ARNG, The Adjutant General (Deceased)

Major General Esteves was born in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, in 1893. He received a BS degree in Engineering from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, in 1915. His military career is chronicled in an earlier section of this chapter. He died on March 12, 1958.



Major General Gonzales-Vales was born in Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, on May 11, 1930. He received a BA degree from the University of Puerto Rico and an MA degree from the University of Columbia. His decorations and awards include: Army Commendation Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal (two awards); and Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal (two awards).



Major General Luis E. Gonzales-Vales, ARNG, The Adjutant General, Puerto Rico



Major General Llenza was born in Santurce, Puerto Rico, on July 1, 1930. He received a BS degree from Georgia Institute of Technology. His decorations and awards include: National Defense Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Combat Readiness Medal; Air Force Longevity Service Award; Puerto Rico National Guard Service Medal; Puerto Rico National Guard Flood Emergency Ribbon; Puerto Rico National Guard War Service Ribbon; and Puerto Rico National Guard Caribbean Emergency Ribbon.



Major General Orlando Llenza, ANG, The Adjutant General, Puerto Rico (Retired)



Major General Pico was born in Coamo, Puerto Rico, on August 23, 1918. He received a BA degree from the University of Puerto Rico in 1940. His military decorations and awards include: the American Service Medal; American Campaign Medal; European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign medal with three stars; World War II Victory Medal; Army of Occupation Medal; Combat Infantryman Badge; National Defense Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with hourglass; Puerto Rico National Guard Merit Cross; Indiana National Guard Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster; and the Republic of Colombia Military Cross "Antonio Marino."



Major General Alberto A. Pico, ARNG, The Adjutant General, Puerto Rico (Retired)



Major General Schober was born in Los Angeles, California, November 17, 1933. He received a BS degree (summa cum laude) from the University of Santa Clara in 1956 and a Master of Public Administration degree from Harvard University in 1964. His military decorations and awards include: the Legion of Merit; Bronze Star Medal; Meritorious Service Medal; Army Commendation Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Vietnam Service Medal; Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal; Vietnam Signal Corps Badge; Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with palm; General Staff Identification Badge; California Service Medal; and California State Service Medal.



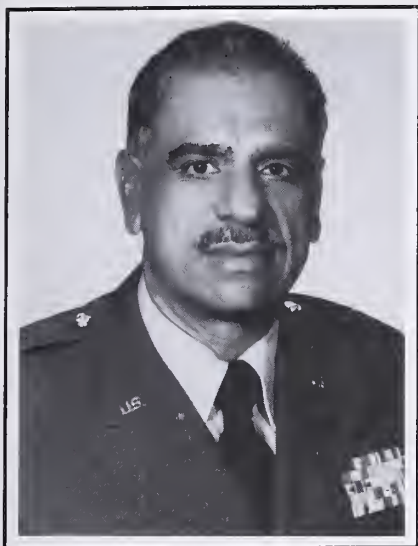
Major General Frank Jose Schober, Jr.,
ARNG, Commanding General, California
(Retired)



Brigadier General Balaguer was born in Arecibo, Puerto Rico, on April 6, 1924. He received a BBA degree from the University of Puerto Rico in 1950. His military decorations and awards include: the Army Meritorious Service Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Korean Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with hourglass; United Nations Service Medal; Puerto Rico National Guard Merit Cross; and the Puerto Rico National Guard Commendation Medal.



Brigadier General Joaquin Balaguer, ARNG,
Cdr., 92nd Infantry Brigade, Puerto Rico
(Retired)



Brigadier General Guillermo H. Barbosa,
ARNG, Assistant Adjutant General, Puerto Rico

Brigadier General Barbosa was born in Hato Rey, Puerto Rico, on April 30, 1929. He received a BBA degree from the University of Puerto Rico in 1953. His military decorations and awards include: the Meritorious Service Medal; Army Commendation Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with hourglass device; Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal; Puerto Rico National Guard Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster; VIARNG Commendation Medal; and ROTC Distinguished Citation, Mayaguez Campus.



Brigadier General Bloise was born in Guayama, Puerto Rico, on October 1, 1930. He attended 3 years of premedical school at Duke University and 6 months training at the University of Puerto Rico. His decorations and awards include: Combat Readiness Medal with one oak leaf cluster; Good Conduct Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with one silver oak leaf cluster; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with hourglass device; Air Reserve Meritorious Service Ribbon; Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon; Puerto Rico National Guard Flood Emergency 1960 Ribbon; National Guard Combat Service Medal; Puerto Rico National Guard War Service Ribbon; Service Medal with two bronze service stars; and Caribbean Emergency Ribbon.



Brigadier General Jose A. Bloise, ANG,
Assistant Adjutant General, Puerto Rico



Brigadier General Flores was born in Eagle Pass, Texas, on July 22, 1926. His decorations and awards include: Bronze Star Medal; Air Force Commendation Medal; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award; Good Conduct Medal; American Campaign Medal; World War II Victory Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Korean Service Medal; Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with six oak leaf clusters; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with two hourglass devices; United Nations Service Medal; Texas Outstanding Service Medal; Texas Federal Service Medal; and Texas Faithful Service Medal with three cactus clusters.



Brigadier General Belisario D.J. Flores,
ANG, Assltant Adjutant General, Texas



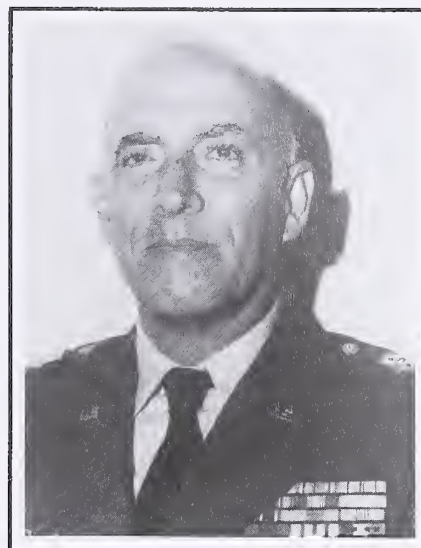
Brigadier General Iniguez was born in Chicago, Illinois, on September 11, 1928. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in October 1956, and assigned as Supply Officer in Headquarters, 108th Medical Battalion. He became Adjutant of the Headquarters in 1957. His decorations and awards include: Meritorious Service Medal; Army Commendation Medal; Korean Service Medal with three bronze service stars; Armed forces Reserve Medal; Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal; United Nations Service Medal; Illinois Long and Honorable Service Medal; and Illinois State Active Duty Ribbon.



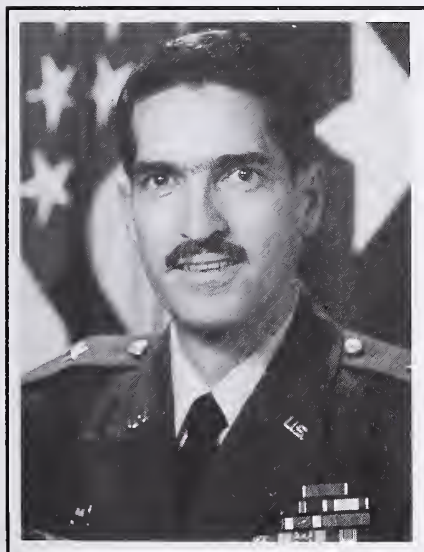
Brigadier General Joseph G. Iniguez, Jr.,
ARNG, Cdr. 32nd Infantry Brigade, Illinois



Brigadier General Lopez was born in San German, Puerto Rico, on August 7, 1922. He attended the University of Puerto Rico, College of Agriculture and Mechanical Sciences. His military decorations and awards include: the American Campaign Medal; Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal; World War II Victory Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; and Puerto Rico National Guard Merit Cross.



Brigadier General Reynold L. Lopez, ARNG,
Assistant Adjutant General, Puerto Rico
(Retired)



Brigadier General William Antonio Navas,
ARNG, Deputy Director

Brigadier General Navas was born in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, on December 15, 1942. He received a BS degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Puerto Rico and an MS degree in Management Engineering from the University of Bridgeport. His decorations and military awards include: the Legion of Merit; Bronze Star Medal; Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster; Air Medal; Army Commendation Medal with second oak leaf cluster; Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Vietnam Service Medal with four campaign stars; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Army Service Ribbon; Overseas Service Ribbon; and the Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon.





Brigadier General Padilla was born in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, on September 19, 1924. He received a BS degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Puerto Rico in 1948 and a master's degree in Chemical Engineering from Cornell University in

1952. In 1958, General Padilla received a Ph.D from Cornell University and did post-doctoral work at Harvard University. His military decorations and awards include: the American Defense Service Medal; American Campaign Medal; Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal; World War II Victory Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with hourglass; Puerto Rico National Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster; Puerto Rico National Guard Distinguished Service Medal; Puerto Rico National Guard Flood Emergency Ribbon; Puerto Rico National Guard Civil Disturbance Ribbon; Puerto Rico National Guard Service Medal; and Puerto Rico National Guard War Service Ribbon.



Brigadier General Salvador M. Padilla, ARNG, Cdr. 92nd Infantry Brigade, Puerto Rico (Retired)



Brigadier General Rafael Rodriguez-Ema, ARNG, Assistant Adjutant General, Puerto Rico (Retired)

Brigadier General Rodriguez-Ema was born in Santurce, Puerto Rico, on September 2, 1914. He received his BA degree from the University of Puerto Rico in 1938. His military awards and decorations include: the American Defense Service Medal; American Campaign Medal; World War II Victory Medal; National Defense Service Medal; eight overseas bars; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Puerto Rico National Guard Service Medal; and Puerto Rico Merit Cross.





Brigadier General Torros was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on February 22, 1913. He received a BS degree from Louisiana State University in 1938. His decorations and awards include: American Defense Service Medal; American Campaign Medal; European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign; Army of Occupation Medal (Germany); World War II Victory Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Puerto Rico National Guard Merit Cross; and National Defense Service Medal.



Brigadier General Salvador Torros, ARNG, Commander General, 92nd Infantry Brigade (Separate), Puerto Rico (Retired)

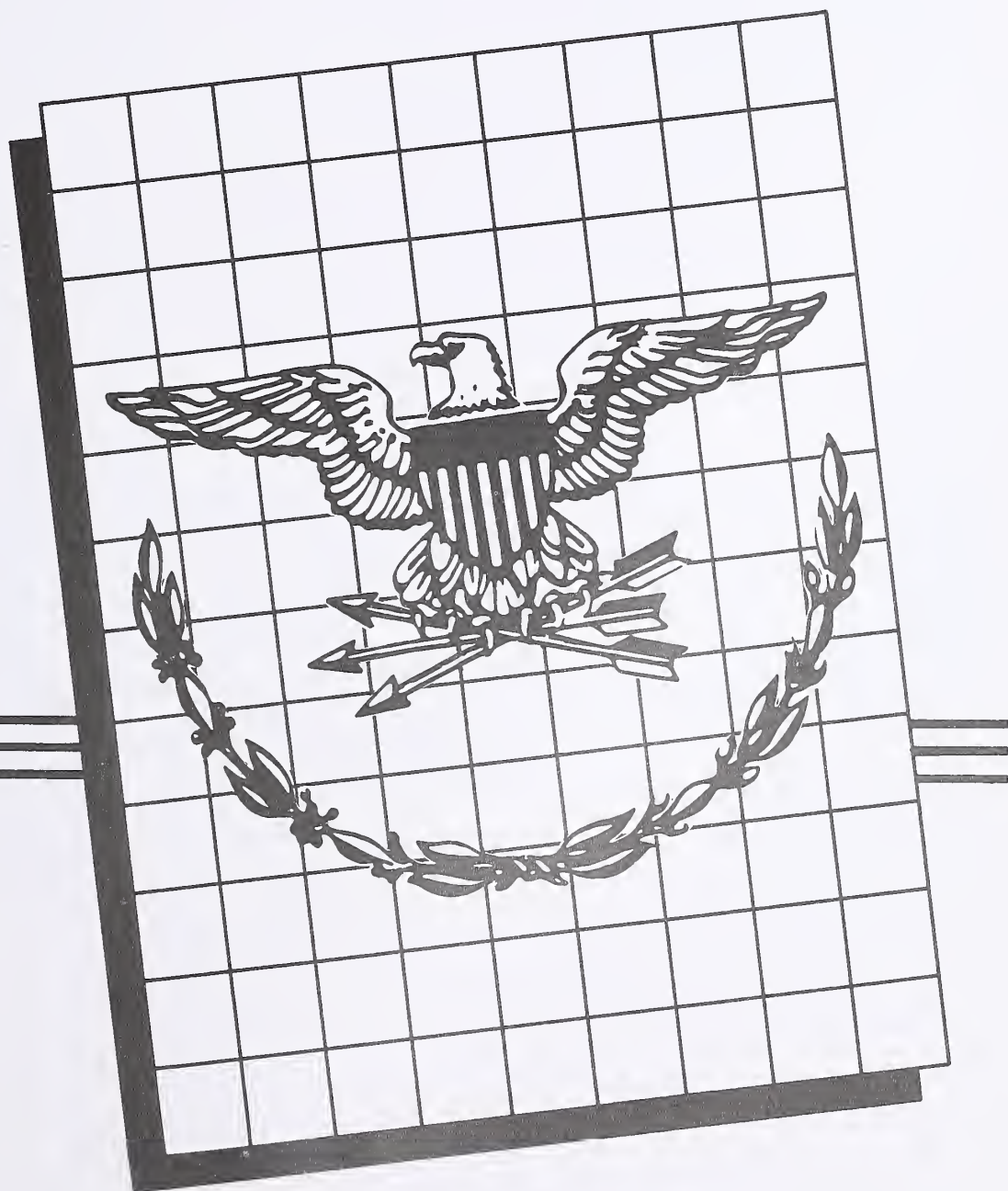


Brigadier General Vargas was born in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, on April 25, 1925. He attended the College of Mechanics and Agriculture Arts, University of Puerto Rico, and the University of Puerto Rico at Rio Piedras. His military decorations and awards include: the American Defense Service Medal; World War II Victory Medal; War Service Ribbon; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; National Guard Service Medal; Puerto Rico National Guard Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster; Puerto Rico National Guard Commendation Medal; Caribbean Emergency Medal; and Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon.



Brigadier General Roberto R. Vargas, ANG, Assistant Adjutant General, Puerto Rico (Retired)

A Selection of Hispanic American Officer Personnel



Colonel Arzaga was born on July 23, 1938, in Holtville, California. He received an AA degree in Business from San Jose City College, a BA degree in Management from St. Mary's College, and an MBA degree in Business from the University of Phoenix.

His military decorations and badges include: Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters; Army Com-

mendation Medal with oak leaf cluster; Army Achievement Medal; Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with two 10-year devices; NCO Professional Development Ribbon with numeral two; and Army Service Ribbon.

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Colonel Angel E. Arzaga



Colonel Henry Castillon
Wyoming Army National Guard

Colonel Castillon was born in Rock Springs, Wyoming, on December 9, 1944. He received an associate's degree from Western Wyoming College. He attended Cameron College in Lawton, Oklahoma and the University of Utah. He earned a Business Administration degree from California Western University. Colonel Castillon enlisted in the Wyoming National Guard in August

1966. His military awards and decorations include: the Legion of Merit; Silver Star Medal; Bronze Star with five devices and one oak leaf cluster; Purple Heart; Air Medal; Army Commendation Medal; Vietnamese and Foreign Service Awards; and the Combat Infantrymen's Badge.

Colonel Gomez was born November 7, 1928, in Ouray, Colorado. He received a BS degree in Business Administration from the University of South Dakota, and took graduate courses at South Dakota State University. He enlisted in the South Dakota Army

National Guard on September 22, 1953. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including several 5-Year Perfect Attendance Medals; South Dakota Distinguished Service Ribbon; South Dakota Unit Citation, and more.

**Photograph
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**Colonel Stephen Andrew Gomez
South Dakota Army National Guard**

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Colonel Gonzalez was born on March 25, 1940, in Ponce, Puerto Rico. He received a BA degree in Business Administration from the University of Puerto Rico and a JD degree from the University of Puerto Rico. He attended the Negotiation Workshop at Harvard Law School. His military decorations and badges include: Meritorious Service Medal;

Army Commendation Medal; Army Achievement Medal; Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with oak leaf cluster; NCO Professional Development Ribbon; Army Service Ribbon; and Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon.

Colonel Edgardo A. Gonzalez

Colonel Hernandez was born on November 29, 1937, in San Antonio, Texas. She graduated from San Antonio Technical and Vocational High School and Baptist Memorial School of Nursing in 1959. She received a BS degree from Incarnate Word College in San Antonio, and an MSW from Worden School of Texas. She attended Brooks School of Aerospace Medicine, Brooks Air Force Base, where she received her flight nurse wings in 1968. Her military awards include: the Air Force Commendation Medal; Air Force Meritorious Service Medal; Air Force

Achievement Medal; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two devices; Combat Readiness Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Vietnam Service Medal; Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with three oak leaf clusters; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with device; Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon; Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with device; Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal; and Air Force Training Ribbon.



Colonel Dora Hernandez



Colonel Joseph R. Quesada
New York Army National Guard

Colonel Quesada was born in New York City on July 1, 1930. He graduated from Mercer College and joined the New York Army National Guard in 1947. He has been the Executive Officer in an infantry brigade, G-3 (Plans, Operations, and Training Officer) 42nd Infantry Division; Chief

of Staff 42nd Infantry Division; and is currently assigned to Headquarters, New York Army National Guard. In civilian life, Colonel Quesada is the Deputy Director of Security for the New York Human Resources Agency.



Captain Angela Salinas

Captain Salinas was born on December 6, 1953, in Alice, Texas. She received a BA degree in History from Dominican College of San Rafael, California. Her military decorations

and awards include: Navy Commendation Medal and Navy Achievement Medal with gold star in lieu of 2d award.

Colonel Sanchez was born on October 20, 1931, in Miami, Arizona. He joined the Arizona Army National Guard in 1974. He attended Arizona State University, where he was enrolled in the pre dental curriculum. He received his BS degree in 1954. He then attended Georgetown University

School of Dentistry, and earned a Doctorate of Dental Surgery degree in June 1958. In 1959, he completed basic military training for the U.S. Air Force, and was honorably discharged in September 1961. He joined the Arizona Army National Guard in 1974.



Colonel A.M. Sanchez
Arizona Army National Guard



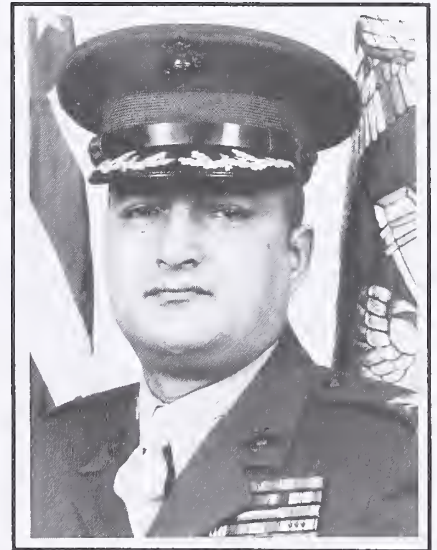
Colonel de la Vara was born in Douglas, Arizona, on October 20, 1936. He received both BS and MS degrees in Education from Arizona State University. After enlisting in the Army National Guard in 1953, he joined the Air Force in 1955. In July 1973, he joined the Air National Guard

full time after several years of military service. His military decorations and awards include the Air Force Commendation Medal; Vietnam Service Medal with three bronze stars; and the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with three oak leaf clusters.

Colonel Ruben A. De la Vara
Arizona Air National Guard

Colonel Vazquez was born and raised in Puerto Rico. He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. He attended the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, and received a master's degree in Information Systems Management from the University of Southern California. His military awards include: Bronze Star Medal with combat

V; Meritorious Service Medal (2 awards); and the Navy Commendation Medal. Colonel Vazquez is a cofounder of the Association of Naval Services Officers, a national organization dedicated to assisting the Naval Services increase Hispanic representation among their officer corps.



Colonel Amilcar Vazquez

Captain Alejandro graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut, with a BS degree in General Engineering. He attended Purdue University for one year of graduate work in Electronics Engineering. His post-graduate studies also in-

clude an MS degree in Mechanical Engineering from Lamar University and an MS degree in Business Administration from the University of Louisville. His military awards include: the Coast Guard Commendation Medal (3 times) and the Coast Guard Achievement Medal.



Captain Anthony Alejandro
United States Coast Guard

Lieutenant Colonel Balseiro was born on August 17, 1942, in Tampa (Ybor City), Florida. He received a BA degree in Accounting from the University of South Florida in April 1965. His

military awards include the Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with one device and the Air Force Commendation Medal with one device.



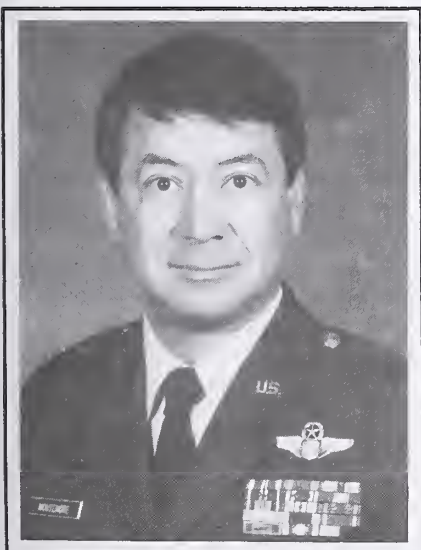
Lieutenant Colonel Manuel Balseiro, Jr.
Delaware Air National Guard



Lieutenant Colonel Juan F. Herrera
Georgia Army National Guard

Lieutenant Colonel Herrera is a member of the Georgia Army National Guard. He received a BS degree in Biology from Texas A&I University, an MS degree in Management and Human Resources from the University of Northern Colorado, and an Executive MBA degree from Georgia State University. His military decorations and awards include: Distinguished Flying Cross; Bronze Star Medal; Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster; Air Medal; Joint Service

Commendation Medal; Army Commendation Medal; Purple Heart; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Vietnam Service Medal; Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal; Republic of Vietnam Campaign; Overseas Service Ribbon; Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with palm; Presidential Unit Citation; National Defense Service Medal; Georgia National Guard Meritorious Service Medal; Aviator Badge; Senior Aviator Badge; and Master Aviator Badge.



Lieutenant Colonel Martin M. Montemore
Missouri Air National Guard

Lieutenant Colonel Montemore was born on June 16, 1944, in St. Joseph, Missouri. He graduated from Christian Brothers High School in St. Joseph, and received a BS degree in Business Administration from Southwest State University in 1967. Further education resulted in an MS degree in Business Administration from the University of Arkansas in 1973, and a Juris Doctorate in law from the University of Kansas-Missouri in 1978. His military decorations and awards include: the Distinguished Flying Cross; Air Medal with six

devices; Air Force Commendation Medal; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Combat Readiness Medal with two devices; Air Force Longevity Service Medal with two devices; National Defense Medal; Small Arms Marksmanship Ribbon; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two devices; Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with device; Republic of Vietnam Service Medal with one device; and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Lieutenant Colonel Romanat is a native of San Juan, Puerto Rico. He enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserves on June 1, 1956, while in high school in New York City. Upon graduation in May 1957, he entered the Army for 6 months of active duty. Upon completion of active duty, he joined the Rhode Island Air National Guard. He received a BBA from the University of Puerto Rico in 1962, and graduated from the Officer's Ground Electronics Communications School at Keesler

AFB, Mississippi, in 1964. In 1969, he graduated from the Electronics Staff Officer Course at Keesler AFB. His military decorations and awards include: Bronze Star Medal; Meritorious Service Medal; Air Force Commendation Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Vietnam Service Medal; Expeditionary Forces Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with palm; and the Republic of Vietnam Service Medal.



Lieutenant Colonel Arturo M. Romanat
Rhode Island Air National Guard

Lieutenant Colonel Saylor was born October 1, 1938, in Gladstone, New Mexico. She is a member of the Missouri National Guard. Her educational achievements include both an MS and BS in Nursing, and she is currently

pursuing an Ed.D. degree. Her military awards include: oak leaf cluster; State Emergency Duty Ribbon; Missouri Long Service Ribbon; and Certificate of Appreciation for Recruiting Support, to name a few.

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Lieutenant Colonel Angelita T. Saylor
Missouri Army National Guard



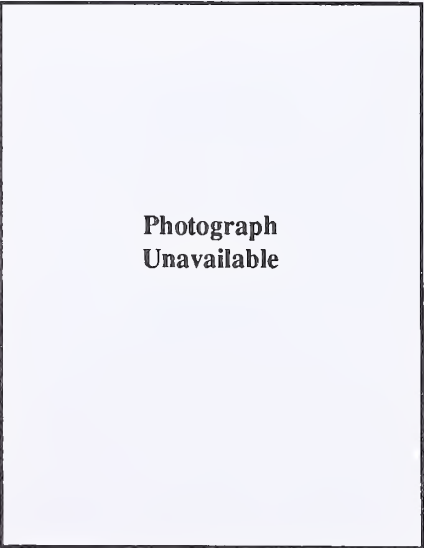
Lieutenant Colonel William Tomasi, III
Texas Air National Guard

Lieutenant Colonel Tomasi was born in San Antonio, Texas, on September 7, 1934. He attended St. Mary's University at San Antonio, San Antonio College, and the University of Texas, Austin. Through correspondence, he completed the Industrial College of the Armed Forces Course from the National Defense University in June 1975. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1956 and was discharged in 1958. He then enlisted in the Texas Air National Guard on January 2, 1959. A

command pilot with over 5,700 flying hours, Lieutenant Colonel Tomasi is the recipient of the Air Force Commendation Medal; Combat Readiness Medal; Army Good Conduct Medal; Air Force Longevity Service Award; Air Force Reserve Medal; Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Award; Texas Outstanding Service Medal; and the Texas Faithful Service Medal.

Lieutenant Colonel Van Domelan has served in the military for over 17 years. He was a member of the Air Force from January 1964 to July 1969. In January 1976, he joined the Vermont Air National Guard. He attended Squadron Officer School and Air Command and Staff. His military awards include: Air Force Commendation Medal; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award; Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon; Air Force Lon-

gevity Ribbon with three devices; Reserve Medal; Gallantry Cross with palm device; Vietnam Campaign Medal; Vietnam Service Medal with four devices; Vermont National Guard Organizational Excellence Ribbon; Vermont National Guard 5-Year Duty Ribbon with one device; and the Vermont National Guard 3-Year Duty Ribbon with two devices.



Lieutenant Colonel John F. Van Domelan
Vermont Air National Guard

Lieutenant Colonel Velasquez was born in Chicago, Illinois, on December 10, 1944. He earned a BS degree from Indiana University in August 1967 and entered the U.S. Army in September of the same year. He joined

the Indiana Army National Guard in 1975. His awards include: the Bronze Star; Air Medal; Vietnam Service Medal; Vietnam Campaign Medal; Army Air Crew Member Badge; and Indiana Commendation Medal.



Lieutenant Colonel Albert J. Velasquez
Indiana Army National Guard



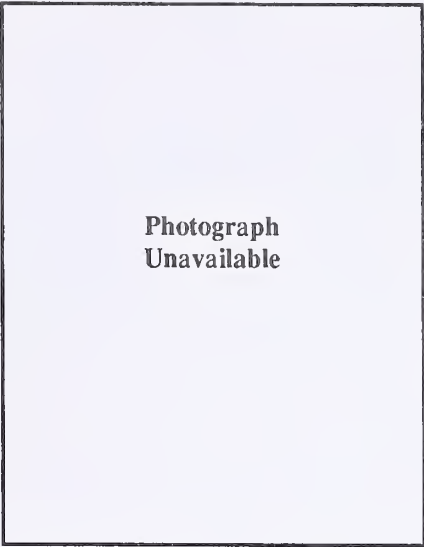
Major Cecilia A. Gonzalez
Texas Army National Guard

A member of the Texas Army National Guard, Major Gonzalez was born on November 18, 1947, in San Antonio, Texas. She received a BS degree in Nursing from Incarnate Word College, and is currently enrolled in the graduate nursing program, majoring in Community Health Nursing, at the University of Texas Health Science

Center in San Antonio. Her military awards include: Army Commendation Medal; Army Reserve Components Achievement; Army Service Medal; Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon; Adjutant General's Individual Award (2); and the Texas Faithful Service Medal.

Major Mansolo enlisted in the Texas Army National Guard on July 15, 1977. He received a BA degree from St. Mary's University, San Antonio,

Texas, in 1970. His military awards and citations include: Texas Faithful Service Medal and Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.



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Major Ronnie P. Mansolo
Texas Army National Guard



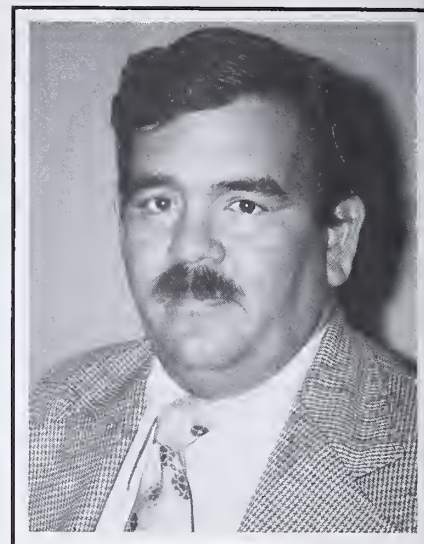
Major Angel M. Vasquez
North Carolina Air National Guard

Major Vasquez was born on October 6, 1944, in Arequipa, Peru. He received BS degrees in Biology and in Nursing from the University of North Carolina in 1968 and 1974, respectively, and an MS degree in Nursing from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, in 1980. Major Vasquez was commissioned as a Captain in the North Carolina Air National Guard in

September 1981. He completed Squadron Officers School by correspondence in March 1987. His military awards include: the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award; the Humanitarian Service Medal; Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon; Air Force Reserve Meritorious Service Award; and the Air Force Training Ribbon.

First Lieutenant Oliverez was born January 5, 1932, in Denver, Colorado. He served in the United States Army, during the Korean Conflict, from 1951 to 1954. His military awards include: the Silver Star; two Bronze Stars; a

Purple Star; the United Nations Medal; and the Combat Infantryman's Medal. He also received a Combat Field commission as a 1st Lieutenant. He died, at the age of 54, on August 27, 1986, in Salinas, California.



**First Lieutenant Albert Oliverez Carnero, Jr.
(Deceased), USA**

First Lieutenant Willem, of the Maryland Air National Guard, was born on July 12, 1954. He received a BS in 1981 from Towson State University. His military awards and decorations include: National Defense Service Medal; Navy Sea Duty Rib-

bon; Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal; Air Force Longevity Ribbon with one device; Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon; Air Force Training Ribbon with one device; Army Service Ribbon; and Maryland Service Medal.



**First Lieutenant Raul Willem
Maryland Air National Guard**

A Selection of Highest Ranking Hispanic American Enlisted Personnel





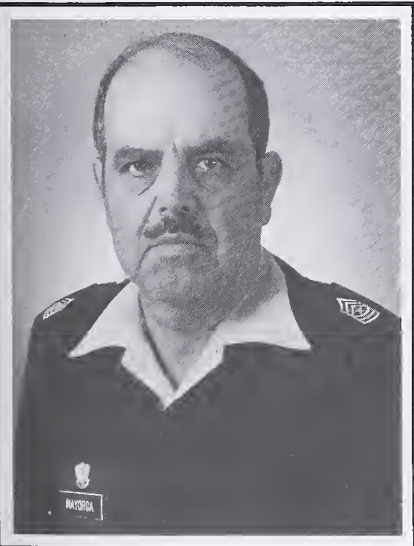
United States Army



Command Sergeant Major Tamez was born on July 6, 1931, in Edcouch, Texas. He attended Pan American University in Edinburg, Texas, and Fisk Institute, Nashville, Tennessee. His decorations and badges include: Combat Infantry Badge; Army Commendation Medal; U.S. Service Medal; Korean Service Medal; Overseas Ser-

vice Medal; Armed Forces Service Medal; NCO Academy Ribbon; Texas Faithful Service Medal; Texas AG Individual Award, second award; Paratrooper Wings; Republic of Korea Presidential Citation; Presidential Unit Citation 141st Inf.; and Governor of Texas Unit Citation.

Command Sergeant Major Simon Tamez
Texas Army National Guard



Sergeant Major Mayorga is an Operations Sergeant for the Arizona Military Academy, Arizona Army National Guard. Some of his responsibilities include assisting in the conduct of physical security training programs; requisitioning GTA's, publications, equipment, and supplies; and

conducting command inspections of various units in the State. He previously served as the Training Standards Officer, wherein he conducted numerous training workshops, and drafted and published various documents for assimilation by the field.

Sergeant Major Carlos Mayorga
Arizona Army National Guard



First Sergeant Marcial Medina
New York Army National Guard

First Sergeant Medina was born in Puerto Rico on March 2, 1948. He completed his education in the New York Public Schools. Before joining the New York Army National Guard, he served in the U.S. Army from 1967

to 1969 with the 4th Infantry Division in Vietnam. His assignments in the New York Army National Guard include Squad Leader, Platoon Sergeant, and First Sergeant.



Master Sergeant Arturo G. Benavidez
Missouri Army National Guard

Master Sergeant Benavidez was born March 22, 1949, in Corpus Christi, Texas. He began his military career on March 9, 1968, with the USAR at San Antonio, Texas, and eventually made a career with the military by joining the Texas Army National Guard. His decorations and awards in-

clude: The Adjutant General's Individual Award for Distinguished Meritorious Achievement and Outstanding Service; Texas Faithful Service Medal; Sustained Superior Performance Cash Award; Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal; and Armed Forces Reserve Medal.

Master Sergeant Martinez was born in Kimball, West Virginia, on October 25, 1941. He is a member of the West Virginia Army National Guard, and his military services spans more than 20 years. He attended Vocational School for 4 years, and Electronics School for 2 years. His awards and

decorations include: Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Army Service Ribbon; Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters; NCO Professional Development Ribbon with three devices; and the Humanitarian Service Medal.



Master Sergeant Jimmie Martinez
West Virginia Army National Guard

Sergeant First Class Mann enlisted in the Texas Army National Guard in December 1975, after serving in the U.S. Marine Corps. She was born in Slaton, Texas, on October 13, 1942. In June 1985, she was reassigned to the Support Personnel Management Office as the Personnel Senior Sergeant in charge of managing the AGR Military

Education and Career Progression for the AGR personnel in the State. Her military decorations and awards include: Army Achievement Medal; Army Commendation Medal, Second Award; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Texas Faithful Service Medal, Second Award; and Texas Medal of Merit.



Sergeant First Class Alice A. Mann
Texas Army National Guard

Staff Sergeant Gonzales is a member of the North Carolina Army National Guard. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in June 1975, and joined the National Guard in November 1979. He earned an associate's degree in Business Administration from Fayetteville Technical Community College, and attended Pembroke State University for 2 years. His military awards and decorations in-

clude: Good Conduct Medal; Humanitarian Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal; NCO Professional Development Ribbon; Army Service Ribbon; two Overseas ribbons; two NC State Duty Awards; and the NC Meritorious Service Ribbon.



Staff Sergeant Michael A. Gonzales
North Carolina Army National Guard

**Photograph
Unavailable**

Staff Sergeant Rios was born on September 5, 1950, in Vega Alta, Puerto Rico. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1969, and later joined the Delaware National Guard (1982). He earned an AA degree in Business Administration (Management) in 1982 from Goldey Beacom College, Delaware. His military decorations and awards include: Army Achievement Medal;

Good Conduct Medal (USMC); Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal; National Defense Medal; NCO Professional Development Ribbon; Army Service Ribbon; and Overseas Service Ribbon. He also received the Medal for Military Merit, and three Physical Fitness Ribbons.

Staff Sergeant Freddie Alberto Rios
Delaware Army National Guard



Sergeant Victor D. Aponte (Deceased)

Sergeant Aponte was born on August 26, 1918, in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. He was a member of Service Company, 507th Parachute Infantry. He enlisted in the Army on October 16, 1940, and served as a paratroop infantry section leader in North Africa, Sicily, Italy, France, Belgium, Germany, and England. Armed with a .30 caliber Browning Automatic Rifle, he parachuted from a plane, dropped behind enemy lines, and wrecked enemy communications. Blasting enemy installations and en-

gaging in hand-to-hand combat, he was wounded on March 16, 1944. Sergeant Aponte was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army on September 4, 1945. His military decorations and badges include: Good Conduct Medal; American Defense Service Medal; European African Middle Eastern Service Ribbon with one bronze arrowhead; Distinguished Unit Badge with oak leaf cluster; the Purple Heart; and the Silver Star Medal.

Sergeant Leonguerro began her military career with the Army in October 1974. She previously served the Kansas Army National Guard and the Washington Army National Guard, and is now a member of the Missouri National Guard. She received an AA degree in Liberal Arts from Penn Valley Community College in 1982, and cur-

rently attends Drury College, where she is pursuing a BS degree in History. Her decorations and awards include: Army Commendation Medal; Army Good Conduct Medal; Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal; Army Services Medal; and Marksmanship Qualification Badge.

**Photograph
Unavailable**

Sergeant Gloria M. Leonguerro
Missouri Army National Guard



United States Navy



ENCM (MDV) Rafael A. Hernandez
United States Navy

Master Chief Engineman Hernandez was born in Aguada, Puerto Rico. He joined the U.S. Naval Reserve in 1962 while attending John Jay High School in New York. Upon graduation in 1963, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy, and

received basic training at the Recruit Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois. He currently is assigned to COMNAV-MILPERSCOM, Washington, D.C., performing duties as a fleet diver detailer.



United States Marine Corps



Sergeant Major Joe Martinez, Jr.
United States Marine Corps

Sergeant Major Martinez, Jr. joined the Marine Corps on August 30, 1959, in Dallas, Texas. Upon completing recruit training, he reported to the 2nd Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and was assigned to the security platoon as a rifleman. In November 1965, he was assigned to the 26th Marines and in July 1966 ac-

companied his unit to Vietnam. He started a second tour of duty in Vietnam in March 1971 with Marine Aircraft Group 11. He attended Sergeant Major Academy at Fort Bliss in July 1977, and in 1978 reported to Okinawa for duty with 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines. He was promoted to Sergeant Major in 1979.

First Sergeant Vincent is a native of Pacoima, California. She enlisted in the Marine Corps in January 1970 and entered boot camp in February of that same year. Her military decorations

and awards include the Good Conduct Medal with one star; Organized Marine Corps Reserve Medal with one star; National Defense Medal; and the Humanitarian Service Medal.



First Sergeant Adella Vincent
United States Marine Corps



United States Air Force



Chief Master Sergeant Lee E. Arguello
United States Air Force

Chief Master Sergeant Arguello was born in Aguilar, Colorado, on September 24, 1937. He earned a bachelor's degree in Social Science (political) from California State University, Sacramento; an associate of science degree in Instructional Methodology from the Community College of the Air Force; and an associate's degree in Business Administration from Santa

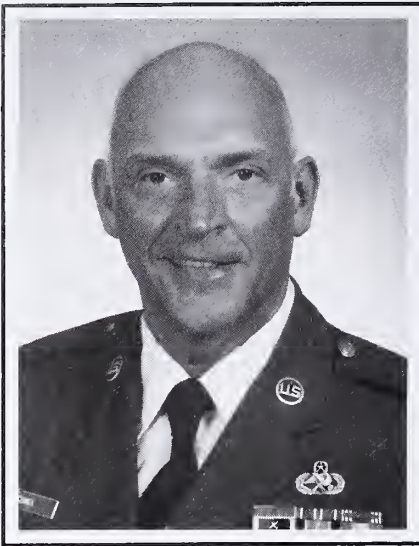
Rosa, California Junior College. His military decorations and awards include: the Air Force Commendation Medal; Meritorious Service Medal with five devices; National Defense Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; and the Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal.

Chief Master Sergeant Beltran was born in Flagstaff, Arizona, on August 17, 1938. He graduated from Phoenix Union High School, Arizona, in June 1956, and received an AA in Business Administration from Phoenix Community College in 1971. He completed the USAF Senior NCO Academy in May 1984. Chief Master Sergeant Beltran joined the Army National Guard of Arizona on October 24, 1955. He is

the recipient of a host of awards and decorations during more than 32 years of service, including U.S. Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster; Air Force Achievement Medal; USAF Outstanding Unit Award with three oak leaf clusters; National Defense Service Medal; and Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.



Chief Master Sergeant Anthony N. Beltran
Arizona Air National Guard



Chief Master Sergeant Cumba was born in New York City on May 16, 1929. He graduated from Morris High School, and enlisted in the Air Force in April 1948. After initial technical training at Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois, he was assigned to Burtonwood Air Base, England. He joined the Air Force Reserve in 1962. His military decorations and awards include: Air Force Outstanding Unit Award; Good Con-

duct Medal with four devices; Army of Occupation Medal; Medal for Humane Action; National Defense Service Medal; Korean Service Medal; Air Force Longevity Ribbon with one silver and two bronze clusters; Air Force Reserve Medal; Air Force Reserve Meritorious Service Medal with one silver and one bronze device; and the United Nations Service Medal.

Chief Master Sergeant Henry Cumba, Jr.
Air Force Reserve

Chief Master Sergeant Escobedo graduated from Cheyenne High School, Cheyenne, Wyoming, in 1953. He attended the USAF Sr. NCO Academy, the Command NCO

Academy, and Squadron Officer School, and completed Officer Professional Training. He received the Wyoming National Guard Association Medal for Excellence in 1969.

**Photograph
Unavailable**

Chief Master Sergeant Richard A. Escobedo
Wyoming Air National Guard

**Photograph
Unavailable**

**Chief Master Sergeant Ronald A. Fernandez
Missouri Air National Guard**

Chief Master Sergeant Fernandez was born in St. Louis, Missouri, on August 29, 1934. He graduated from St. Mary's High School in St. Louis, and majored in Accounting at St. Louis University, earning approximately 54 credit hours. He enlisted in the Missouri Air National Guard in August 1952, and has over 35 years of Reserve service. His military awards include: Air Force Longevity Service Award

with seven oak leaf clusters; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with 2nd hour glass device; Air Reserve Meritorious Service Award with six oak leaf clusters; Small Arms Expert Marksman-ship Ribbon with one star; Air Force Training Ribbon; Missouri National Guard Commendation Ribbon with eight oak leaf clusters; and the Missouri National Guard Long Service Medal with gold hawthorn cluster.

Chief Master Sergeant Prieto, of the Maryland Air National Guard, was born on November 7, 1931. He attended the Professional School of Commerce, Cuba, and the Army Administrative Course. His military awards and decorations include: Air Force Commendation Medal; Army Good Conduct Medal; Army of Occupation Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Army Overseas Ribbon;

Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with five devices; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with two devices; Air Force Reserve Forces Medal with five devices; Small Arms Expert Marksman-ship Ribbon; Army Service Ribbon; Maryland Commendation Medal; and Maryland State Service Medal with one silver bontonnee.



**Chief Master Sergeant Julius F. Prieto
Maryland Air National Guard**



Chief Master Sergeant Elpedio G. Sanchez
Arizona Air National Guard

Chief Master Sergeant Sanchez was born on May 9, 1928, in Superior, Arizona. He received a BS degree in Business Administration from Arizona State University in 1953. He is a Financial Manager in the Arizona Air National Guard. His military decora-

tions include the Air Force Commendation Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; ARF Meritorious Service Ribbon; AF Longevity Service Ribbon; AF Organizational Excellence Award; and the AF Outstanding Award.

Master Sergeant Collazo served in the U.S. Air Force from August 1958 to October 1966. He joined the Georgia Air National Guard in July 1986. In addition to attending various Service schools, he received training at the ANG NCO Academy. His military decorations and awards include: Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters; Air Force and

Army Good Conduct Medals; National Defense Service Medal; Air Force Overseas Ribbon, short; Air Force Longevity with one silver and one bronze oak leaf cluster; Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal with one silver and one bronze oak leaf cluster; USAF NCO PME graduate; and Small Arms Marksmanship Medal.

**Photograph
Unavailable**

Master Sergeant Luis R. Collazo
Georgia Air National Guard



Master Sergeant Mary J. Dombroski
Air Force Reserve

Master Sergeant Dombroski was born on August 31, 1951, in Brawley, California. She has completed 3.5 years towards her Baccalaureate degree in Occupational Education at Southern Illinois University, Carbon-dale. She entered the Air Force in September 1969, and in May 1975, at the end of her first term, left active duty and joined the Air Force Reserve.

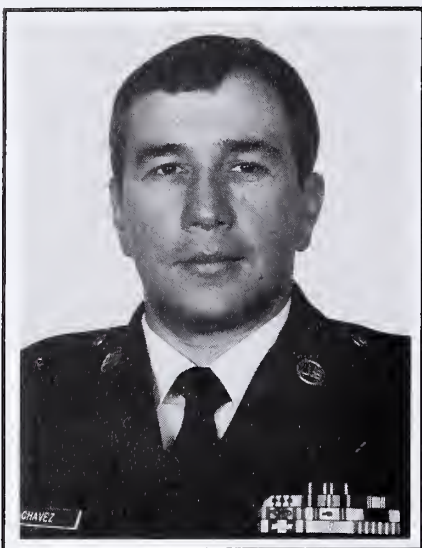
She has been awarded the Air Force Achievement Medal; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award; Air Force Good Conduct Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon; Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal; and Air Force Training Ribbon.

Master Sergeant Hernandez was born on August 31, 1930, in New York, New York. He graduated from Manhattan High School of Aviation Trades in 1949, and enlisted in the U.S. Air Force on July 18 of the same year. After serving in Japan and Korea for 2 years, upon expiration of enlistment he was returned to the U.S. for separation on January 23, 1953.

He returned to the military in November 1955, and after spending several years in the Air Force Reserve, transferred to the Delaware National Guard in August 1962. Master Sergeant Hernandez has received numerous awards and decorations both on Active Duty Reserve and National Guard status.



Master Sergeant Joseph J. Hernandez
Delaware Air National Guard



Technical Sergeant John E. Chavez
Idaho Air National Guard

Technical Sergeant Chavez was born on July 20, 1945, in Idaho Falls, Idaho. He graduated from Shoshone High School, Shoshone, Idaho, in 1964, and attended Idaho State University Trade and Technical Institute, Pocatello, Idaho, from 1964 to 1967. He majored in electronics. Technical Sergeant Chavez enlisted in the U.S. Navy on February 28, 1967. In 1971, he joined the U.S. Naval Reserves as a Rated

Communications Technician, and was transferred to the Idaho Army National Guard in 1972 as an Air Frame Mechanic. He currently is assigned as a trainer for photo processing, 190th TFTS, Photo Processing and Interpretation Facility, Idaho Air National Guard. He is attending the Dale Carnegie Course, and is scheduled for the noncommissioned Officer Academy in the near future.

Technical Sergeant Maldonado entered the Vermont Air National Guard on September 25, 1987. She has a total of 11.5 years of military service. Her military decorations and awards include: the Air Force Achievement Medal; Air Force Lon-

gevity Service Ribbon with one device; Air Force Training Ribbon; Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Ribbon with one device; and the Puerto Rico National Guard Exemplary Conduct Medal.

**Photograph
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Technical Sergeant Mitzy Maldonado
Vermont Air National Guard



Technical Sergeant Peter Rendon
New Jersey Air National Guard

Technical Sergeant Rendon was born on December 20, 1953, in San Antonio, Texas. He graduated from Rancoacus Valley Regional High School, Mount Holly, New Jersey. He enlisted in the New Jersey Air National

Guard on January 15, 1975, and received basic training at Lackland AFB, Texas. Technical Sergeant Rendon is a graduate of both the Air National Guard Leadership School and NCO Academy TAC East.

Staff Sergeant Chepulis joined the Air Force in February 1977 and completed regular active duty on December 3, 1984. She joined the Vermont Air National Guard on January 7, 1985. Her military awards include: Air Force Outstanding Unit Award; Air Force Training Ribbon; Air Force Good Con-

duct Medal with one device; Air Force Overseas Long Tour Ribbon; Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with one device; Vermont National Guard Commendation Medal; Vermont National Guard 3-Year Duty Ribbon; and Vermont National Guard Good Conduct Ribbon.

**Photograph
Unavailable**

Staff Sergeant Margie M. Chepulis
Vermont Air National Guard



United States Coast Guard

**Photograph
Unavailable**

Senior Chief Machinery Technician Cardona enlisted in the Coast Guard on February 6, 1970. He completed recruit training at Training Support Center in Alameda, California, and was transferred to Coast Guard Loran Station, Cape Sarichef, Alaska, in May 1970. His military decorations and

awards include the Coast Guard Achievement Medal; Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation; Good Conduct Ribbon; and the National Defense Service Medal. MKCM Cardona is also entitled to wear the Cutterman's insignia permanently because he has accrued more than 5 years of sea duty.

**Machinery Technician Senior Chief
Carlo Cardona
United States Coast Guard**

The Military Academies and Hispanic Americans



Hispanic-American Graduates of the Military Academies 1966-1989

Class Year	United States Military Academy	United States Naval Academy	United States Air Force Academy	United States Coast Guard Academy
1966	-	-	-	1
1967	-	-	-	-
1968	-	-	-	1
1969	-	-	-	1
1970	-	-	8	-
1971	-	-	3	-
1972	-	-	3	1
1973	-	-	7	2
1974	-	-	3	2
1975	5	1	3	-
1976	11	1	19	2
1977	12	8	16	1
1978	24	20	19	3
1979	15	22	27	2
1980	21	25	33	3
1981	18	36	41	1
1982	26	31	31	6
1983	24	34	40	6
1984	32	48	55	-
1985	52	32	36	2
1986	29	43	43	3
1987	34	52	44	3
1988	44	47	52	4
1989	47	52	40	5

- Data unavailable



United States Military Academy

Class of 1975

Macias, Victor
Murdock, Edwin A.

Nava, Ramon III
Ramirez, Hilario Jo

Rodriguez, Charles

Class of 1976

Colchado, Edmundo M.
Cuellar, Joseph Anthony
Hernandez, Rhett Anthony
Jimenez, Juan Antonio

Lopez, David
Quinones, Raymond Bernando
Riojas, Jose David
Rodriguez, Harrison Jose Ram

Topete, Hector Edward
Trujillo, Dennis Robert
Trujillo, Wayne Joseph

Class of 1977

Acosta, Tony Jesus
Asencio, Carlos Jes
Carrillo, Mario Andrew
Garduno, Ralph Martin

Montelongo, Michael Jr.
Pantalion, Jesse Mi
Pierson, Phillip Louis
Ramos, Ronny

Rodriguez, Gene Lou
Tise, Victor
Torres, Steven
Velez, Angel David

Class of 1978

Bega, Richard Mark
Buckler, William Ma
Caldera, Luis Eduar
Carrasco, Salome Acosta
Ceja, Ricardo
Contreras, Enrique
Cuesta, George Mich
DeLeon, Robert Jr.

Garcia, Rudolph Nicasio
Gonzalez, Joe Robert Jr.
Gonzalez, Juan
Grado, Ramon Raul J.
Guzman, Thomas Jesse
Hernandez, Manuel Juan Flore
Matos, Julio Antoni
Mendoza, Miguel Angel III

Morales, Jose Torres
Ortega, Felix Raymo
Pina, Gerald Willie
Rodriguez, Orlando
Schell, John Adam Jr.
Silva, Michael Jose
Usera, Carlos Antonio
Valdez, Abraham Geo

Class Of 1979

Acosta, Jesse Thomas
Cardenas, William Guillermo
Crescioni, Francisco Antoni
DeLeon, Jack Jr.
DeLeon, Lawrence

Frantz, Kevin Jude
Garcia, David John
Garcia, Norman Emma
Gomez, Albert Joe Jr.
Gonzalez, Francisco

Jimenez, Martin Arthur
Leal, Miguel Noe
Ojeda, Francisco Ma
Pagan, Earl
Reyes, Jerardo

Class of 1980

Arriola, James Thomas
Balderas, Elias Villegas
Blanco, Evan Edward
Burke, Richard Andr
Cantu, Joe Manuel
Cdebaca, M.W. Dwight
Cohen, Steven Allan

Garza, Samuel R.
Guardia, Miguel Ang
Gutierrez, Miguel A.
Linares, Francisco Javier
Martinez, Michael M.
Martinez, Richard C.
Padro, Raymond Edwa

Perez, Stephen Joseph
Polo, Richard Joseph Jr.
Quintana, Sloyd Anthony
Ramos, William
Scrivner, Leopoldo Carrillo
Villahermosa, Gilberto
Zayas, Jerry David

Class of 1981

Ayala, Adolfo Jr.
Berrios, Fernando Jr.
Casares, Helias
Castro, Fabian Gustavo
Collazo, Neriux Alexis
Coplen, Richard Chase

Divis, Paul Joseph
Fix, Debra Lopez
Hernandez, Victor David
Hidalgo, Jorge Fidencio
Madrid, David Raymond
Ondarza, Frederick John

Pursell, David Patrick
Raynes, William Curran Jr.
Riera, Ricardo Rogelio
Rodriguez, Humberto
Salazar, Eugene
Trevino, Raymond Anthony

Class of 1982

Almanza, Ernest John Jr.
Alvarez, Oscar Nava
Aponte, Manuel Jr.
Asencio, Francis Xavier
Aviles, Steven Michael
Castro, Rawlin Jr.
Garcia, Rafael Jorge Jr.
Guerra, Paul David
Hernandez, Juan Jose

Lynch, Thomas Francis III
Madrid, John Charles
Monagas, Guy Robert
Morales, James Anthony
Olivares, Edward Charles Jr.
Ortiz, M. Rafael
Paoli, Scott Charles
Polo, James Alan
Quintana, Mark Robe

Ramirez, Mario Orlando
Rohrer, Eugene Joseph
Ryan Maritza Saenz
Salazar, Steven Lindsey
Scrivner, Benjamin Alberto
Silva, Manuel Cirino
Valverde, Clinton Daniel
Vera, Juan Manuel

Class of 1983

Barringer, James Edward
Blanchard, Carlos
Canales, Gerard Olvera
Desrosier, Thomas James
Divis, Monica Ann
Duell, Christopher John
Fugarino, Charles Earnest
Harre, John Charles Jr.

Molera, Manuel Edmund
Nogueira, Ruben Arturo
Ordonez, Ruben
Ortiz, Lionel Valentin
Panerio, Robert M.
Perez, Charles Oscar
Perez, Joseph Francis
Powell, Richard Ant

Rangitsch, Joseph Francis
Robles, Maldonado Jose M.
Rodriguez, Rand Alyn
Ruiz-Calderon, Antonio Jorge
Turner, Robert Michael
Valenzuela, Benjamin David
Valenzuela, Lorenzo Jose
Widmer, Kathleen Medaris

Class of 1984

Alvarez, Joseph Henry
Baca, Jonathan Steven
Balland, David Jerome
Bermudez, James Mauricio
Bruno, Bruce Emile Jr.
Cadena, George Edward
Carlson, Patricia Aceves
Enriquez, Oswald
Fierro, Herman Hugo
Fraley, Michelle Marie
Garcia, Anthony Dale

Garcia, Richard Lee
Gavilan, Rafael Miguel
Gomez, Edward Alfred
Higuera, Janice
Lopez, Ruben Serna
Maldonado, Hector Manuel
Maynez, James Joseph Beda
Mothershed, David Reid Jr.
Munoz, Leonel Junior
Pacheco, Christofer Michael
Perez, Roman Santiago

Prukop, Anycia Audrey
Reza, Reynaldo
Rivera, Guillermo Jr.
Rodriguez, Luis Francisco
Rodriguez, Oscar Hugo
Sanchez, Castellanos Armando
Toro, Wanda Teresa
Torres, Manuel Angel
Trujillo, Joseph Louis
Wiant, Diana

Class of 1985

Anderson, Richard Garcia
Apodaca, Santiago III
Arcocha, Juan Leon
Barreda, Pedro
Berdecia, Luis Antonio
Both, William Harvey
Bowen, David
Cabulong, Frederick Xa
Cal, Paul Louis
Campos, William Patrick
Carranza, Francisco R.
Cecin, Jose Angel Jr.
Chacon, Joseph Leonard
Cruz, Raymond III
Duran, Manuel
Echevarria, Ramon Luis II
Fernandez, Lucia
Flores, Edgar Emil

Garcia, Gerhard Thomas
Garcia, Maria Victoria
Gonzales, Raymond Anthony
Guerra, Jerry
Guevara, Robert
Hernandez, Alejandro David S.
Hernandez, Rhonda Susan
Holguin, Thomas John
Lopez, Carlos Manuel
Martinez, Luis
Montoya, Michael Edward
Montoyo, Micha
Moreno, Maria Arcelia
Packard, Charles Joseph
Pawlowicz, Ivan Noe
Perez, Peter Joseph
Puig, Luis Enrique
Quinn, Charles Walter

Quinn, Rollie Francis
Ramos, Jose Michael
Rodriguez, Leo Vincent Jr.
Rodriguez, Wilfred Jr.
Romero, Eric Roland
Salazar, John Mark
Sans, Juan Diego
Segundo, Ernest Charles Jr.
Swisher, Vanessa Marie
Tifre, Edwin Ronald
Vazquez, Dennis Juan
Vazquez, Roberto Lewis
Villalba, Enrique Francis
Weiss, Frederick Keith II
Wilson, Darlene Marie
Wolf, John Martin

Class of 1986

Benavides, Sandra Eleonora
Berton, Anne Teresa
Bullard, Robert Lee
Delgado, Jenkins Jesus Humbe
Everett, Orel Michael
Garcia, Michael Dennis
Gigrich, James Salvador
Gutierrez, Kurt Patrick
Guzman, Daniel Allen
Hansen, Christine Anne

Isler, Cynthia Mae
Leal, Martin Gary
McDermott, Maria Del Pilar
McMillian, Monica Marie
Medina, Patricia Anne
Morris, Joseph Thomas
Munoz, Michael Anthony
Ortiz, Laurence Gregory
Pereira, Paul Gonzalo
Perez, Felix Manuel

Prieto, Jesus Alfonso
Rios, Ruben
Saldivar, James Andrew
Sicinski, Stephen Jerome
Solano, James John Jr.
Williams, George S. III
Woodring, Walter George
Woodring, William Otto
Zelaya, Alfonso Eduardo

Class of 1987

Ast, Richard Archibald
Boysen, Marion
Chavez, Randall George
Comstock, Mica McKenzie
Cortez, Carlos Vicente
Esteves, Rudy Aldo
Falzon, Gerard Michel
Gameros, Charles William Jr.
Garza, David Lionel
Gonzales, Michael Anthony
Hernandez, Javier
Huerta, Fernando Martin

Jimenez, Ramon
Johnson, Kenneth Alan
Lichtenberger, Robert Noe Jr.
Mance, Karl Rippert
Mora, James Delgado
Morillo, Ricardo Miguel
Mycue, Alfredo John
Pacheco, Ronald Eugene Jr.
Perwich, Axa Stella
Quintana, Nivaldo Ignacio
Ranne, Carl Brian
Regalado, Michael Arthur

Reyes, David Peter
Rodriguez, Daniel
Rodriguez, Edwin
Rosario, Peter John
Saenz, James Edward
Sanchez, John Christopher
Sartori, Roberto Jose
Seise, Alan
Sousa, Alexander
Steele, Anneliese Margarita

Class of 1988

Acevedo, Edward Francis
Aleman, Michael Stuart
Barry, Duncan Lawrence
Bearse, Patrick Michael
Benitez, Lisa Marie
Bennett, Magda Margarita
Cala, Albert A.
Calderon, Robert Daniel
Canales, Daniel
Chancey, Jeffry Thomas
Coplen, Mark William
Comejo, Robert Martin
Craig, Robert Raymond
Detata, David Wayne
Diaz-Jimenez, Ricardo Felix

Dorame, Thomas Tracy
Esquivel, Michael Croden
Estrada, Pablo
Fraire, Robert
Garcia, Antonio
Garnica, John Lopez
Gatti, Gregory Andrew
Heveri, Lisa Marie
Hidalgo, Anne Denisse
Huber, Franz Jose
Irizarry, Warner Alberto
Isler, Walter Eugene Jr.
Laib, Ramona Denise
Martin, Clintron Jorge
Martinez, David Michael

Martinez, Edwin II
Mitschke, George Paul
Najera, Alfred
Negron, Rafael Daniel
Pauka, Andre Mauricio
Pina, Raul Antonio
Puig, Alejandro Miguel
Rebelez, Darren Michael
Rodriguez, Jerry Jr.
Salas, Mark Harding
Sweeney, Donna Marie
Trigo, Luis Alfredo
Zamora, Carlos Alonzo
Zuniga, Franciso

Class of 1989

Aguirre, Jesus
Amezcuca, Mariano Ricardo III
Andonie, John Charles
Antolin, Vicente J.
Baca, Glenn Clarence
Barrera, Marco Julio
Batson, Randall Everette Jr.
Boemio, Patrice M.
Carmona, Cid Fernando
Casillas, Roger Anthony II
Cavazos, Roger Fainberg
Chavez, Christella Josette
Chavez, Christopher Matthew
Chavez, Gilbert
Deguttadauro, Andrea R.
Dominguez, Juan M.

Dunleavy, John F.
Duran, Victor Valdimiro
Emerson, Charles Jackson Jr.
Estrella, Juan Alberto Jr.
Garcia, Edward Richard
Garcia, John Angel
Grijalba, Adam Ray
Gutierrez, Omar Francis
Hernandez, Daryle John
Howe, Miguel Damian
Jarotzky, Alexander
Lawter, Michael Anthony
Llaguno, Sarah D.
Lopez, Ruben David
Martinez, Lourdes Gisela
Maymi, Fernando Juan

Miller, Carla Janice
Morales, Ricardo Omar
Moran, Robert Dean
Patacsil, Peter K.
Perez, Carlos Jr.
Perez, Marcus A.
Preciado, Richard Ray
Reyes, Matthew Martin
Rodriguez, Javier
Romero, James S.
Sarabia, George Henry
Sariego, Paul Victor
Sullivan, Michael Matthew
Torres, Onesimo Oscar
Ybarra, Jose Christoble Jr.



United States Naval Academy

Class of 1975

Bustamante, Robert P.

Class of 1976

Castellanos, Fidel Lira

Class of 1977

Bradley, Mark J.
Calleros, Salvador J.
Fox, Stephen Cruz

Galvan, Jose L.
Garcia, Stephan A.
Gonzales, Henry

Vasquez, Bill L.
Viera, Dennis

Class of 1978

Balderrama, Vincent M.
Becerril, Miguel I.
Blanco, Ricardo
Camargo, Victor B.
Carpenter, John R.
Carrasco, Joe J.
Gasapo, Michael C.

Gonzales, Joel
Guerrero, Gerardo
Luevano, Rafael V.
Martinez, Ricardo
Martinez, Thomas J.
Rey, Rene Joseph
Robredo, Albert

Rodriguez, Enrique A.
Saenz, Ramon R.
Sambrano, Gus Jr.
Sanchez, Philip E.
Sotomayor, Charles A.
Urquidez, Donald L.

Class of 1979

Aguilar, Raymundo
Anzalotta, Orlando
Bladuell, Mario R.
Brugal, Andres A.
Chapa, Roger A.
Dennis, Carl P.
Fresquez, Gary J.
Garcia, Esteban

Garcia, Patrick C.
Garcia, Raul R.
Gonzalez, Armando P.
Hayes, Richard A.
Hernandez, Felix Jr.
Huddleston, Robert
Larragoite, Louis S.
Leon-Guerrero, F.

Munoz, Amador Jr.
Ruiz, Fernando A. Jr.
Shuga, Gilbert
Urrutia, Alexander L.
Valdez, Samuel E.
Wartrick, Kenneth L.

Class of 1980

Aguero, John Carl
Almanza, Jesus
Artuso, Angelo J.
Esparza, John B.
Flores, David J.
Gonzalez, Mark J.
Griggs, Frederick
Lonchas, William
Lopez-Alegria, M.

Martinez, George
Mendez, Armando E.
Nash, William B.
Otano, Andres H.
Padilla, Reuben A.
Perez, Samuel Jr.
Pino Jon, Carlos
Portillo, Alan E.
Rivera, Manuel R.

Rivera, Richard T.
Rives, Ronald H.
Saez-Ortiz, R.
Saldana, Jose W.
Stefanovic, R.
Torres, Gerardo
Torres, Raymond J.

Class of 1981

Arango, Joseph III
Ayuso, Carlos E.
Calvente, Vincent
Camacho, Stephen
Ceja, Eduardo A.
Chavez, Carlos M.
Colon, Steven M.
Estrada, Elpidio
Falcon, Manuel E.
Gallegos, Matthew
Garcia, Roberto M.
Garza, Michael A.

Gilliland, Carmel
Gomez, Ina M.
Gonzales, Jeffery
Jackson, David W.
Jaramillo, Robert
Jones, James B.
Lawrence, Joseph
Martinez, Anthony
Montoya, Benjamin
Nanyes, Ollie
Navarro, Jaime
Ortiz, Ismael Jr.

Perez, Ricardo
Pillot-Olive, I.
Pinto, Trinora E.
Piontek, David
Quintero, Thomas
Ramirez, Lilia L.
Romero, Anthony
Sanchez, Thomas W.
Sandoval, Ronald
Soto, Alfred C.
Vazquez, James T.
Vera, Raul

Class of 1982

Alvarez, Jose L. Jr.
Armas, Juan C.
Ayuso, Richard D.
Chico, Christian J.
Cissel, Matthew B.
Coretz, Carolyn
Covelli, Nicholas J.
Diaz, Gabriel A.
Dimas, Robert Jr.
Jordan, Michael Jr.
Kiser, Robert E.

Lopez, Fernando J.
Loureiro, Gustavo
Matacotta, Ernest
Morales, William
Murillo, Esteban R.
Palomo, Bacilio
Perez, Phillip A.
Perez-Vergara, Eliezer
Rios, Mark R.
Robledo, Robert O.
Rodriguez, Alma B.

Rodriguez, Vidal
Ruiz, Adalberto III
Salinas, Philip L.
Segura, Christopher
Sotelo, Javier
Suarez-Marill, Javier
Tarango, Mark E.
Vazquez, Jose A.
Velez, Rene

Class of 1983

Alcala, Robert W.
Colon, Christopher
Cooney, Joseph Michael
Coronado, Patrick A.
Covelli, Javier M.
Del Toro, Carlos
Duran, Jimmy
Enriquez, Kenneth A.
Flores, James J.
Garcia, George T.
Lago, Roberto
Llarena, Juan Paul

Loria, Christopher J.
Loyola, Benito Jr.
Martin, Fred W.
Mills, Sam M.
Miranda, Enrique F.
Molano, Walter T.
Ortega, Mike R.
Parra, Amado Michael
Ramirez, Fred B.
Rivas, Gerald A.
Rivera, Carlos I.
Rivera, Richard C.

Rodriguez, Raymond V.
Sanchez, Anthony J.
Santos, Geraldine W.
Segura, John T.
Silva, Michael F.
Skidmore, Mark L.
Soto, Joseph W.
Twomey, Thomas R.
Vasquez, Alan A.
Zapata, Ricardo A.

Class of 1984

Aguilar, Tomas J.
Alicea, Pedro R.
Caraveo, Bryan T.
Castaneda, William G.
Collazo, Ramon A. Jr.
Crespo, Frank J.
Dacruz, Daniel N.
Deleon, Carlos E.
Escobar, John D.
Espinosa, Rafael
Fierro, Jesus J. Jr.
Flores, Edward A.
Garcia, Manuel
Gilreath, Harold L. Jr.
Giron, Janet M.
Gomez, Armando P.

Gonzalez, Robert Jr.
Graham, Jeffrey R.
Guibas, Israel
Hale, Andrew M.
Holtkamp, Louis M. Jr.
Johnson, Richard
Jordan, John J.
Lancaster, George M.
Lara, James C.
Lluy, Paul A.
Lopez, Arturo A.
Lopez, Michael R.
Lyon, John H.
Marin, David V.
Martinez, Michael M.
Martinez, Vernon M.

Marvil, Gregory P.
Menendez, Arsenio K.
Merino, Donald W.
Miranda, Ricardo F.
Murray, Mary K.
Nenna, David L.
Pregel, George A.
Romero, Glenn R.
Rosa, Ivan R.
Samora, Arthur K.
Sanchez, David A.
Silva, Raul
Stovall, Lawrence S. II
Sutton, Frank E. C.
Talamantes, Clarence S.
Zamka, George D.

Class of 1985

Andow, Andrew J.
Armes, Bobby D. Jr.
Berdeguez, James
Camacho, Richard
Carver, John D.
Coombs, Richard J.
Delgado, Anthony
Duran, John M.
Fenton, William E.
Fordham, Joseph P.
Francis, Edward P.

Garcia, Gregory A.
Gomez, Louis A.
Gonzalez, Leonard M.
Heine, Kenneth A.
Hernandez, Ernest D.
Jordan, Gerald J.
Lastra, Guido J.
Lebredo, Nicolas
Loria, Robert C.
Mata, Silvester G.
Mendoza, Eugenio R.

Otero, Agustin L.
Otero, Victor H.
Perdomo, Maurice C.
Price, Ricardo A.
Ruiz, Antolin
Ruiz, David L.
Trujillo, Mario G.
Villar, Reuben
Wolfe, Gilbert R.
Yniguez, Mark L.

Class of 1986

Acosta, Robert G.
Aguilar, Leonard J.
Arredondo, Alfredo
Baca, David G.
Baerga, Ruben D.
Bennett, Jeffrey K.
Carriedo, Ruben
Casados, Christopher D.
Casares, Jose M.
Cruz, Gregory R.
Cruz, Norman D.
Enriquez, Kurt J.
Flores, Mark W.
Fresquez, Ricardo L.
Garay, Roger A.

Garcia, Levino R.
Gomez, Richard M.
Jimenez, Carlos E.
Judith, Joseph A.
Kilby, James W.
Kyle, Eric R.
Malczynski, Richard D.
Martinez, Elisa R.
Martinez, Jeffrey P.
Miranda, James F.
Ospina, Alex
Partida, Louis P.
Proano, Robert J. Jr.
Quesada, Anthony M.
Quinones, Barbara J.

Ramos, John J.
Rivadeneira, Silvia M.
Rodriguez, John R.
Rodriguez, Robert S.
Sanchez, Anthony A.
Schreckengost, Ronald
Silva, Henry R.
Soler, Christopher
Sturken, Brett A.
Urbina, Steven M.
Vazquez, Larry L.
Wallis, Joseph F.
Wiemann, John M.

Class of 1987

Alvarez, Dawn M.
Arellano, Anthony J.
Arias, Christopher V.
Blasini, Jorge F.
Burgos, Brian N.
Cancio, Ramon J.
Cheneler, Joseph M.
Crespin, Rudy J.
Cronin, Jason W.
Dennis, Shawn E.
Diggle, Anthony A.
Diorio, Nicholas J.
Esparza, Jorge A.
Espinosa, Paul E.
Galvan, Richard
Gomez, Gabriel E.
Gonzalez, Evaristo
Gonzalez, Reinaldo

Gotay, Orlando
Herrera, Michael A.
Holtkamp, Erik G.
Kamat, Keval S.
Laforge, Michael
Lara, Joe
Martinez, Antonio R.
Martinez, Arturo Z.
Martinez, Rene
Morales, Joseph A. IV
Ortega, John C.
Ortiz, John A.
Padilla, Ann M.
Pagan, Ivan R.
Pereira, Frank
Petty, Anita S.
Piontek, Joseph W.
Ribera, John J.

Rodriguez, Juan C.
Rodriguez, Miguel A.
Saldivar, Raul F. Jr.
Sanchez, Joe M.
Sheerin, Michael T.
Shores, Jose R.
Soto, Ruben D.
Stewart, Michael A.
Suarez, Carlos M.
Tellez, Grover D.
Trevino, Jose L. II
Upham, Christopher I.
Vajgert, Joe L.
Weiner, Michael S.
Wheat, Juan M.
Zengotita, Carlos

Class of 1988

Alberto, Alberto R.
Arguelles, James P.
Ball, Francisco M.
Bayesa, Michael C.
Brinkman, Joseph M.
Bunge, Alfred A.
Caraveo, Kenneth
Cata, Augusto G.
Cela, David
Cerde, Rene L.
Cornell, Brent M.
Deleon, Arthur
Delgado, Nelson J.
Diaz, Anthony T.
Escobar, Jose R. Jr.
Feroo, Albert L.

Flores, Carlos R.
Garcia, Daniel L.
Garcia, John R.
Gomez, Edward A.
Gomez, Thomas C.
Gonzalez, Ricardo M.
Guerrero, Thomas K.
Guzman, Milton K.
Hernandez, Mark A.
Hernandez, Richard J.
Lemmon, John S.
Maldonado, Luis A.
Marchesse, Enrique F. Jr.
Mares, John M.
Morales, Frederico O.
Munoz, Michael J.

Osorno, Juan C.
Peterson, Carl W.
Pullin, Paul E.
Reyes, Vincent L.
Rivera, Juan P.
Rodriguez, Richard A.
Romo, Richard T.
Rossy, Jose E.
Sandoval, Eduardo
Segovia, Juan I.
Silva, Richard P.
Thome, Anthony L.
Tortora, Robert P.
Valadez, David R. III
Villarreal, David E.

Class of 1989

Acosta, George Alberto
Baez, Hector Luis Jr.
Barbosa, Carlos Martin
Borrego, Jaime
Cerde, Rene Luis
Cielo, Geoffrey Angel
Corchuelo, Albert Fernando
Covarrubias, Lino Jr.
Curbelo, Rafael Antonio
Daubon, Druso
Delaossa, Mario Enrique Jr.
Devilliers, Edward Michael
Dickens, Anthony Thomas
Escriva, Andrew C.
Garcia, Javier
Garza, Jose Luis
Gentry, Daniel
Gonzalez, Yvette Marie

Graham, John Russell III
Gray, Edward Joseph
Gutierrez, Francisco Javier
Haggott, Jeffrey
Jimenez, Michael Anthony
Lamberty, Gontran Miguel
Lugo, Frank Ernest Jr.
Luna, Felipe Amor Jr.
Martinez, Edward Romeo
Milot, David
Morales, Jose Ignacio
Neff, Ronald David
Newman, Carl Emery
Orona, James Christopher
Pagan, Neftali
Pekari, Gregory Stephen Jr.
Ramos, Luis
Reyes, Michael James

Rivera, Daniel James
Rodriguez, James Arthur
Rodriguez, Michael Joel
Romero, Gregory Roy
Ruiz, Robert Maldonado
Rust, Charles Anthony
Salazar, Carl Brian
Salcedo, Frank Conrad
Sandoval Matthew Cye
Santiago, Robert Celestino Jr.
Tortora, Paul Joseph
Valdez, Marcelo Joseph
Velasquez, Michael Burton
Velez, Robert Louis
Viera, Tania Lisa
Zarasua, Vincent Damian



United States Air Force Academy

Class of 1970

Ainsworth, Loren Charles
Alves, Jeffrey Ross
Aragon, Rudolph Fermin

Gonzalez, Efrain Ulloa
Herrera, Moses
Montoya, Adolfo George

Oconnor, Richard Mora
Villarreal, Xavier Guadalupe

Class of 1971

Campos, Roel C.

Sabala, John Vincent

Sanchez, Felix

Class of 1972

Arizmendi, Thomas George

Lecato, Harvey

Solana, Richard Peter

Class of 1973

Avila, Edward Raymond
Cuadros, Ricardo Gerardo
Gutierrez, Sidney McNeill

Maravilla, Ernest
Sanchez, Francisco Pedro
Solis, Onesimo Jr.

Troncoso, Michael Eugene

Class of 1974

Garcia, Peter Flores

Lasaxon, Victor Manuel

Rivas-Pingel, Roberto Juan

Class of 1975

Kambourian-Bartolome, Juan

Soto, Christopher Cary

White, David George

Class of 1976

Agis, Edward

Cuevas, Eliseo Joseph

Davila, Richard Jr.

Estrada, Edward Alvarez

Garcia, Jose Antonio

Garza, Carlos Jr.

Grijalba, Apolonio Serrano Jr.

Gutierrez, George Anthony

Huerta, Jesse Albert

Lopez, Manuel Joseph

Ortiz, Vincente

Perez-Otero, Nelson Ovaldy

Reza, Salvador

Riviera, John Gerald

Saa, Enrique Amador

Salazar, Jerry Gene

Santiago-Mojica, Jose A.

Singh, Albert Gary

Vera, Glenn

Class of 1977

Costales, Armando Aguilar Jr.

Cruz-Vega, Carlos Benjamin

Dlarotta, Maximo Gabriel

Donnelly, Robert Phillip Jr.

Garcia, Felix Jr.

Garza, Mario Alberto

Marquez, Steven Lynn

Martinez, Pete Jr.

Meza, Alphonso Jr.

Pineiro, Francisco Jr.

Rivas, Mark

Serer, Eduardo

Shaw, Lee Luis Jr.

Silva, Ruben Dario

Turner, Ricardo Rolando

Villalobos, Anthony

Class of 1978

Ball, Thomas Anthony
Bravo, Jose Roberto
Cabriaes, Gary Michael
Cordova, Michael
Corona, Arturo Martinez
Cuellar, Andres Noe Jr.
Dallago, David Robert

Delgadillo, Carlos Eduardo
Deras, David Anthony
Laguna-Borrero, Marcos
Linares, Ricardo Carlos
Ortega, Lorenzo III
Pena, Arthur J.
Ramos, James Joseph

Romo, Lawrence G.
Rubalcaba, Jimmey Wayne
Scott, Charles Ernest III
Trujillo, Alexander
Valdivia, Michael A. Jr.

Class of 1979

Alfaro, Albert Charles
Alvarado, Richard Louis
Ayala, Charles Herbert
Barron, Joseph Francis
Benitez-Casanova, Wilfred Carl
Chabolla, Steven Anthony
Clay, Thomas Rafael
Garcia, Fred Nelson
Garza, Roberto

Gomez, Gregory Alan
Hernandez, Ricardo
Herrera, Rojelio Jr.
Herrera, Walter Hugh
Jimenez, James Alfred
Mays, William Bernard
Mendoza, Frank Remedios
Ortiz, David
Rhodes, Michael Lee

Sanchez, Humberto Ayala II
Sandoval, Lawrence Joseph
Savala, Thomas Joseph
Sosa, Steven Adolfo
Trapaga, Ralph Paul
Vazquez, Donald John Jr.
Vera, Nelson Thomas
Zamora, Ross Carl Jr.
Zarate, Peter John

Class of 1980

Acoba, Primo Jr.
Angarole, Michael Inward
Arboleda, Henry Jimmie
Bassett, Charles Kenneth
Bunch, Lewis Allen III
Burgos, Nelson Ivan
Cardenas, Michael David
Castro, Christopher Matthew
Chavez, Scott Alan
Cuellar, Christopher Richard
Cummings, Mark Edward

Fernandes, Joseph Eugene
Flores, Arnold
Fonseca, Joseph Kent
Gamboa, Steven Gilbert
Garcia, Linda Theresa
Gonzales, Stephen David
Gonzalez, Dean Wayne
Harris, Robert James
Hernandez, Richard John
Morales, Dionisio
Neves, Edward Ernest

Origel, Frederick Paul
Ornelaz, Robert
Perez, Charles
Rodriguez, Kenneth Francis
Rosado, Orlando
Ruiz, Jose
Salaza, Arnoldo Benavidez
Silva, James Timothy
Soto, Scott Stephen
Starck, Donald Steve
Tajeron, Anthony Patrick

Class of 1981

Aguilar, Ricardo
Alvarez, Robert James
Baggett, Alexander Earl
Balmaseda, Guillermo Benito
Bermudez, Michael
Bloom, Roland James
Brusuelas, Michael Anthony
Campbell, Gerardo Orlando
Castillo, Gil Vincent
Castillo, Rodolfo
Deltoro, John Michael
Dominguez, Brian Edward
Flores, Leona Antoinette
Flores, Michael

Freitas, Diego Manuel
Gallegos, Frank
Garcia, Rose Anna
Gonzalez, William Jr.
Greenlee, Arthur Carl
Hamid, Abel
Lopez, Jose Luis
Lopez, Kevin William
Lopez, Timothy John
Montijo, Gregg
Moreno, Juan
Nardo, Rafael
Olavarria, Johnny Steven
Olmo, Veronique Marie Dolores

Painter, Candy Maria
Perez-Vergara, Alberto Luis
Rodriguez, Jose Daniel Jr.
Salinas, Jose Juan
Santiago, Rigoberto Jr.
Scheppele, Fred Steven
Simon, Albert Joseph
Tobat, Daniel Louis
Torres, Anthony B.
Torres, Raymond George
Trujillo, Lionel Joseph
Ureta, Horacio Antonio
Yasay, Vincent Benny Jr.

Class of 1982

Anaya, Richard Eric
Barrientes, Abel
Cabrera, Edward Anthony
Canino, Robert Brian
Cardenas, Mark Kevin
Casias, Charles Eddie
Cruz, Alice Louise
Darling, Marcus Joseph
Demarest, James Thomas
Fulton, Matthew Robert
Gomez, John Joseph

Guerrero, Manuel Jr.
Hernandez, Marco Anthony
Herzig, Steven Charles
Mazzola, Stephen
Montoya, Gloria Dolores
Navarro, Robert Michael
Pauda, Jose Mario
Pico, Joseph Javier
Provencio, Christopher David
Ruiz-Morales, Richard Hector
Salcedo, Maurice Einstein

Sandoval, Alfredo Arturo
Santiago, Frank Jr.
Smith, Kevin Dion
Sobrino, Pedro Francisco
Telles, Rodolfo Jr.
Torres, John Eduardo
Velasco, George Rodriguez
Weber, Gary Melvin
Zavala, Mark Anthony

Class of 1983

Aldaz, Joe Vincente Jr.
Alvarez, Guadalupe Guzman
Atkinson, Reuben Jr.
Brown, Robert William
Bustamante-Amaris, Luis E.
Carreno, Kevin Andrew
Cespedes, George Emiro
Cosley, Michael Joseph Jr.
Delarosa, Thomas Mitchell
Diaz, Michael Louis
Dingley, Dennis Frans
Duffy, Christina Marie
Flores, Tonia Rebecca
Garcia, Alfred David

Gomez, Angel Antonio
Gracia, Alvaro
Guthals, Mick Robert
Gutierrez, Brad Allan
Huerta, Enrique Jr.
Lee, Charles Edward II
Lozano, Rogelio Jr.
Madrid, Michael James
Marrero, Efrain
Martinez, Patricia Jo
Merritt, Russell Walter
Murillo, Charles Julius Jr.
Nazario-Vega, Ricardo
Orta-Fargas, Inocencio

Pacheco, Joseph George
Padilla, Michael Anthony
Palacios, Sean Patrick
Penalora, Thomas Michael
Pericas, John Joseph
Rios, Eric Williams
Rodriguez, David Alberto
Rosas, Michael Glen
Ruiz, George Alicea
Skinner, Christopher Glen
Spahn, Rodney Irwin
Vega, Ramon Guillermo Jr.

Class of 1984

Albiol, Les
Alvarez, Juan Carlos
Amaral, Juan Hector
Arroyo, Samuel Anthony
Atencio, Curtis Anthony
Avila, Robert Brian
Bernal, Carlos
Carriedo, Robert
Cartagena, Brent
Castaneda, Richard Ignatious
Castillo, Karen Marie
Darang, Orlando Mario
Delgado, David Michael
Dufaud, Bradley Wayne
Duran, Maria Dolores Depau
Echanis, Lawrence Harold
Fajardo, Wallace Ricardo
Fernandez, Adolfo Jesus
Figueroa, Dianna Maria

Fullmer, Kenneth Richard
Gonzales, Julie Anne
Guevara, Albert Eric
Gutierrez, Charles O'Brien
Gutierrez, Maurice Leonardo
Hernandez, Ramiro
Hernandez, Roxanne Gutierrez
Herrera, Justo III
Herrera, Victor Guzman
Huber, Eric Michael
Kittyle, Robert Lynn
Leon, Galdino Anthony
Limon, Juan Francisco
Maestas, Mark Leo
Marrero, Vincent Joseph
Marvin, Paul Rafael
Mouw, Mark William
Nuanes, Robert Alan
Nunez, John Michael

Rivera, Jose Antonio
Rojas, Daniel
Rosado, Carroll
Rosado, Jaime Luis Jr.
Rosado, Mark A.
Sanchez, Darryl James
Sierra, Jose Orlando
Straton, John Robin III
Suarez, Paul Joseph
Tate, Freddie Von
Tavernier, Benjamin Ivan
Torres, Brendan Mark
Trujillo, Michael Andrew
Urrutia, Linda Renee
Vance, Christina Louise
Viera, Alfonso Gaxiola
Wyche, William Edward

Class of 1985

Alderete, Elizabeth Ann
Angulo, John Alexander
Aponte, Antonio Marcelino
Bugeja, Vincent Emanuel
Canino, Michael Allen
Cartagena, Orlando Luis
Castilleja, Gary Patrick
Castillo, William A.
Comejo, Michael Louis
Daw, Richard Scott
Diaz, Daniel
Eamon, Robert Raymond Jr.

Erazo, David Gregory
Garcia, Donovan Timothy
Garcia, Marilyn Honora
Gonzalez, Robert Kirby Russell
Hernandez, Carmelo Abel
Hernandez, Heidi
Kiernan, Kelley Sue
Lonchar, George Samuel
Lopez, Betty
Lyons, John Matthew
Martinez, Daniel
Mateos, Carlos Luis

Olivarez, Jerome
Pagan, Randolph Allan
Perez, Annette Maria
Perez, Yvette
Rutledge, Samuel Mark
Sanchez, Daniel
Sasseville, Marc Henry
Shellabarger, Maria Lee
Tanner, Edward Jay
Torres, John Jacob
Trujillo, Edward Joseph
Vance, Paul David

Class of 1986

Adelmann, William Charles
Almeida, Elizabeth Odalia
Bampton, Peter Michael Place
Benavides, Ernesto V.
Burnett, Charles Roy
Chavez, Edward Craig
Davila-Martinez, Kellie L.
Diaz, Victor Jesus Jr.
Dominguez, Juan Alberto Jr.
Estavillo, Arthur Darrell
Feck, Vincent John
Gibson, Rex Oscar
Gonzales, Robert Joe Jr.
Gonzalez, Angel Daniel
Hernandez, Emilio Augusto

Leake, William Anthony
Martinez, Jerry Paul
Medina, Cecil Anthony
Menchaca, Jose Jr.
Mercado, Richard Tad
Mihalik, Stephen Joseph
Miranda, Robert
Montero, Anthony
Oms, Pedro Raul
Ortega, Jonathan Louis
Ortiz, Christopher
Ortiz, Juan Carlos
Quintana, Carlos Benino
Quiterio, Carlos William W.
Reyes, George John

Rodriguez, Ernest Henry
Ruder, Craig Richard
Salcedo, Claude Einstein
Solorio, Michel Anthony
Suarez, Pedro Fermin
Tavrytzky, Jan Alexander
Torres, Jose Luis Jr.
Trigo, Anacleto Fernando
Trippe, Octavio Louis III
Valdez, Christopher Mark
Velazquez, Angel Luis
Wall, Jose Rafael
Zucco, Anthony John Francis

Class of 1987

Abascal, Thomas Albert
Arizpe, Victor Henry
Arriola, Mark Jon
Bampton, Matthew Weeks
Casias, Michael Nathan
Clinton, Shirley Rebekah
Cohee, Garrett Lane
Diaz, Angel Ahmed
Diaz, Rolando Jr.
Due, Ranger Wright Matthew
Dufaud, Steven Craig
Echeverry, Juan Carlos
Ehrhart, John Edward Jr.
Espinoza, Cholene Danielle
Garcia, Raul Vernon

Garcia, Roy David
Garrobo, Andrew Antonio
Gebauer, Michael Scott
Gummel, Lisa Margarita
Hernandez, Gustavo Alonso
Herrera, Cary Alan
Huerta, Howard Henry
Hullinger, Sharon Anne
Lovell, Todd Allen
Luna, Raymond
Lyons, Joseph Mark
Madril, Robert Johnny
Maestas, Terrese Carla
Moore, Stuart Scott
Morales, Humberto Enrique

Olmos, Steven Adrian
Partridge, Dale Patrick
Payan, Samuel
Redford, Don Lee
Reid, Patrick Victor
Reynolds, Dale Duane Jr.
Rivera, Joe Archie
Rodarte, Venancio Jr.
Rojas, Victoria Ann
Romero, Andrew
Salazar, Elsa
Sandoval, Steve Anthony
Serrano, Jaime
Valdez, Victor Joseph

Class of 1988

Alfasi, Steven Louis
Arce-Larreta, Jorge Luis
Barnett, Michael Joseph
Camacho, Marlon Gilbert
Canada, Henry Leroy
Cardoso, James Luis
Cellery, Marc Gates
Deblasse, Kenneth Patrick
Dela Pena, Eduardo C. Jr.
Encinas, Patrick Herbert
Falcon, Margot Elaine
Garcia, Mara Ileana
Garza, Robert Valentino
Guerra, Rimy
Guerra, Thomas Christopher
Guevara, Hector Jose Jr.
Hartley, Malinda Kaye
Helfeldt, Gary Alan

Herrera, Antonio Jr.
Herrera, Rodolfo Ignacio Jr.
Horton, David Earl
Huber, Neil Frederick
Hughes, Harold Richard II
Jui, James
Lemasters, Glenn Buryl Jr.
Loperena, Joseph Charles
Lucas, Robert Burnside
Maes, Carl Francis
Mance, Peter Eric
Marrero, Rafael Teodoro
Martinez, Orlando Mario
Michalec, Charles Edward
Mikus, Brendan Patrick
Moore, David Jaime
Myers, Elman Borst IV
Pacheco, Karin Marie

Peters, David Edward
Peters, Mark Vincent
Puente, Daniel Andrew
Quiroz, Christopher James
Ramirez, John Anthony
Rodriguez, Stuart Andrew
Romagosa, Cristina Maria
Sanchez, Steven Eli
Tafoya, Michelle Maria
Torres, Alexander Victor Fred
Trinidad, Pedro Rafael Jr.
Trujillo, Troy Louis
Uribe, Daniel
Valdez, Paul Augustine
Veve, Rafael Alexander
Villalobos, George Laurance

Class of 1989

Abeyta, Brian Lew
Alderete, Richard Jr.
Ali, Alexis Raul
Baldessari, David Daniel
Branch, Lawrence Henry
Cardenas, Edward James
Carpentier, David Scott
Cassas, Devin Anthony
Castillo, Hector
Charon, Sergio Hugo
Delacruz-Martinez, Gerardo J.
Diaz, Juan Ramon
Donahue, Maureen Colette
Garduno, Caesar Rodriguez

Gaston, Alberto Julio Jr.
Gonzalez-Rojas, Alexander II
Guerrero, Juan Carlos
Guthals, Jody Ann
Hennigan, Edward John II
Hernandez, Alexander Valentine
Leante, Mercedes Josephine
Leante, Rebeca Isabel
Lopez, Charles Manuel
Lostetter, Vincent Joseph Jr.
Malone, Douglas Paul
Manning, Fermin Floyd II
Mezhir, Stephen Raphael
Oder, Joseph Martin

Ott, Mark Anthony
Pena, Juan Orlando
Peters, Charles Alexander
Rivera, Lourdes Maria
Rivera, Marisol
Rodriguez, Marisol
Schwerin, Walter Henry Jr.
Sibert, Manuel Antonio Castill
Soto, Juan
Torres-Laboy, Jose David
Trefry, Michael Anthony
Vaca, Santiago Alfredo



United States Coast Guard Academy

Class of 1966

Alejandro, Anthony C.

Class of 1968

Salas, Juan T.

Class of 1969

Rodriguez, Pablo M.

Class of 1972

Morales, Carlos

Class of 1973

Alfonso, Carlos Montoya, Freddy L.

Class of 1974

Guerrero, Adan D. Porter, Robert L.

Class of 1976

Ledesma, Richard Roudebush, Sam

Class of 1977

Gonzalez, Ramiro

Class of 1978

Cassis, George A.

Cognet (Diaz), George A.

Rabago, Ronald J.

Class of 1979

Campos, Vincent Medina, David A.

Class of 1980

Maes, James D.

Ramos, William W.

Rodriguez, Joseph F.

Class of 1981

Rendon, Richard A.

Class of 1982

Atkins, Vincent B.

Baldessari, Karl R.

Diaz, Charley L.

Galvan, Gregory S.

Torres, Mark A.

Vazquez, Mark A.

Class of 1983

Baca, Michael J.

Ball, Jacqueline A.

Fogel, Robert V.

Guerrero, Nicholas

Rendon, James E.

Winnie, Deborah

Class of 1985

Aguirre, Timothy T. Raras, Manuel R. III

Class of 1986

Burchell, Robert S.

Delgado, Daniel V.

Vincinte, Robert T.

Class of 1987

Grzesik, Edward

Rodriguez, Christopher M.

Sandoval, Richard A.

Class of 1988

Lopez, Michael J.
Pereira, Jorge

Rendon, John C.

Vikin, Ivan J.

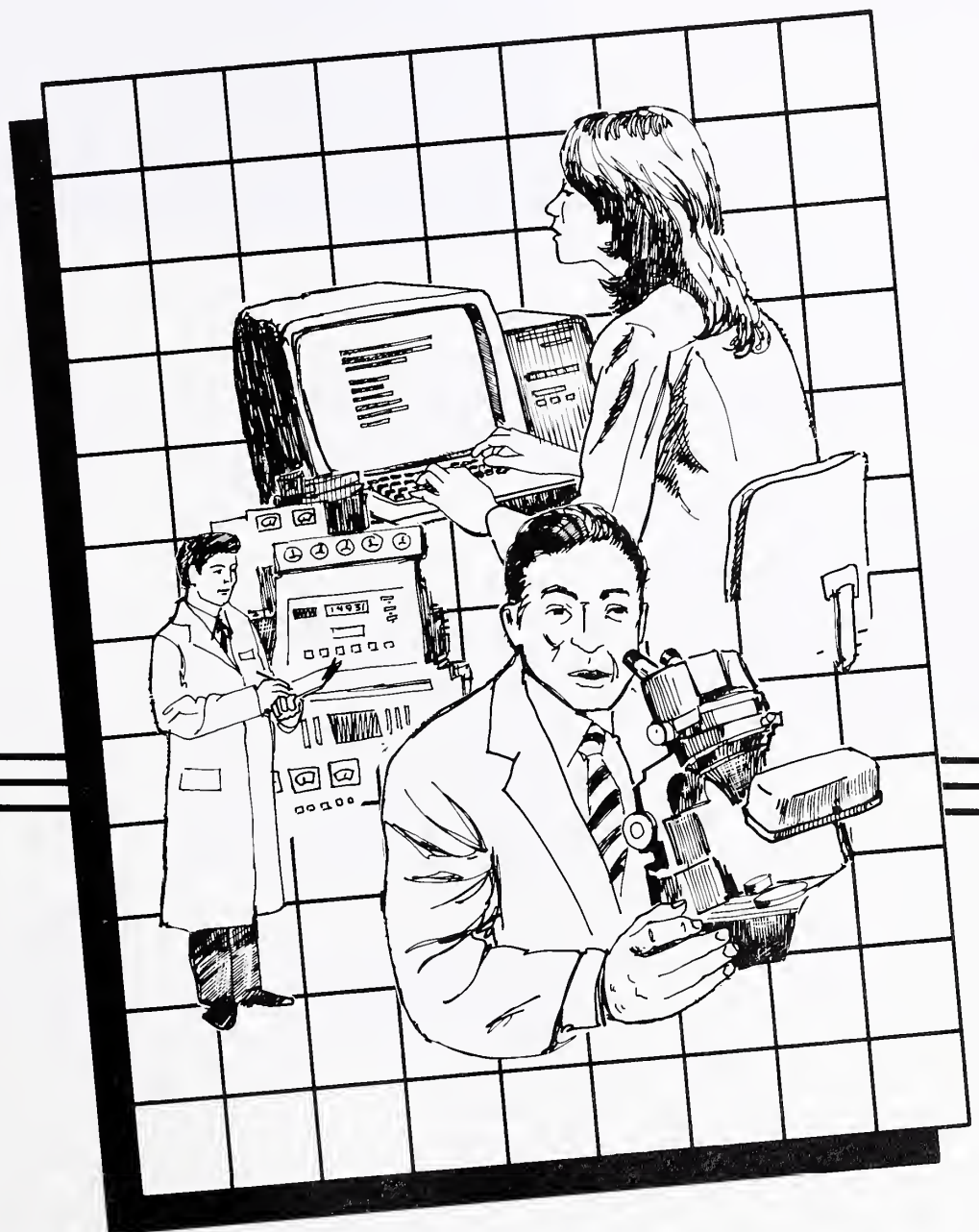
Class of 1989

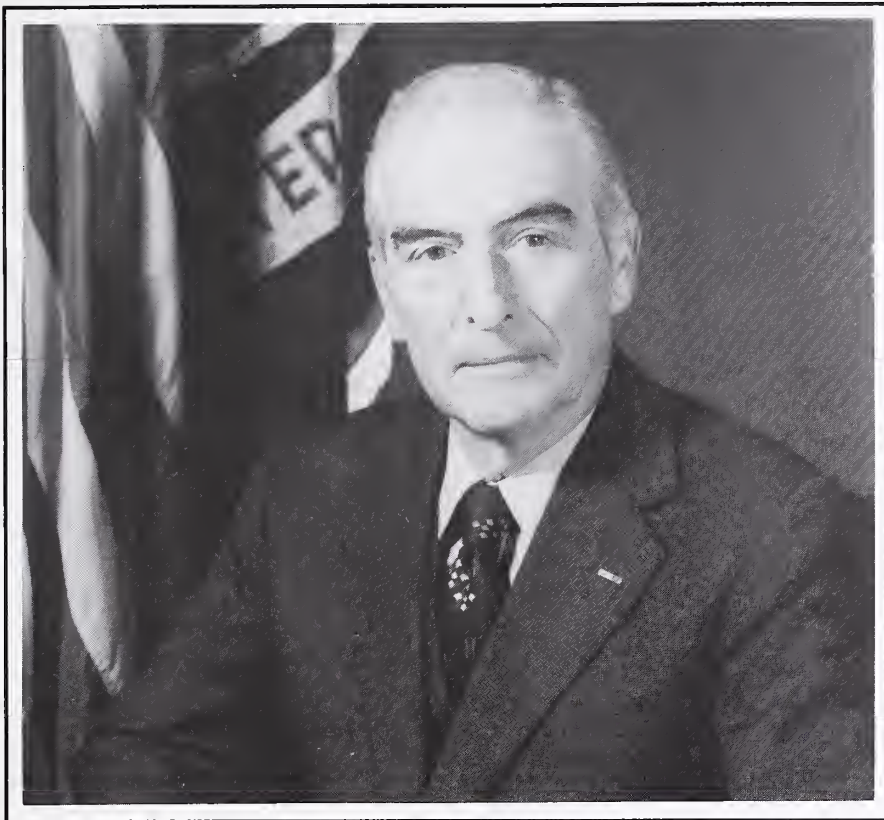
Baca, Paul G.
Eagle, Michael J.

Gomez, Frank T.
Jaramillo, Luis F.

Pacheco, Ernest M.

Hispanic Civilians in the Department of Defense





The Honorable Edward Hidalgo

Secretary of the Navy, 1979–1980

A Special Tribute to The Honorable Edward Hidalgo Former Secretary of the Navy and the Highest Ranking Hispanic Civilian to ever serve in DoD

On September 13, 1979, Edward Hidalgo was nominated to be Secretary of the Navy. Mr. Hidalgo was confirmed by the Senate on October 19, and took the oath of office on October 24, 1979. He previously had served, since April 25, 1977, as Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, and Logistics).

Secretary Hidalgo was born in Mexico City, Mexico, on October 12, 1912. He has been a resident of the United States since early childhood. He received a BA degree, Magna Cum

Laude, from Holy Cross College in 1933 and a J.D. from Columbia Law School in 1936. In 1959 he received a degree in civil law from the University of Mexico.

He served as a law clerk to the Second Circuit Court of Appeals in 1936, and 1937, and was an associate with the law firm of Wright, Gordon, Zachry, and Parlin from 1937 to 1942. From 1942 to 1943, he was assigned to the State Department as legal advisor to the U.S. Ambassador to the Emergency Advisory Committee for Political Defense in Montevideo, Uruguay.

From 1943 to 1945, he served as an air combat intelligence officer on the carrier *USS Enterprise*. He was a member of the Eberstadt Committee

which reported to the Secretary of the Navy on unification of the military services in 1945. He received the Bronze Star for his services aboard *USS Enterprise* and a Commendation Ribbon for his service with the Eberstadt Committee. In 1945 and 1946 he served as Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy, James Forrestal.

From 1946 to 1948, Mr. Hidalgo was a partner in the law firm of Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt, and Mosle, in charge of their Mexico City office. He was founder, in 1948, and a senior partner, until 1965, in the Mexico City law firm of Barrera, Siqueiros, and Torres Landa.

From 1965 to 1966, Mr. Hidalgo was Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy, Paul H. Nitze. From 1966 to 1972, he was partner in the law firm of Cahill, Gordon, and Reindel, in charge of their European office. In 1972, he served as Special Assistant for Economic Affairs to the Director of the U.S. Information Agency, and in 1973 became General Counsel and Congressional Liaison of the Agency.

Mr. Hidalgo was a member of the U.S. Delegation to the Inter-American Conference in Bogota, Colombia, in 1948. He has received the Royal Order of the Vasa for legal services to the Swedish Government. He is the author of "Legal Aspects of Foreign Investments" (chapter on Mexico) (1958).

Introduction

Regardless of the quantity or sophistication of its equipment, no military force will be any better than the quality of its people. Accordingly, any program of rebuilding our military strength also gives top priority to attracting and retaining qualified people. In addition, we must remain sensitive to the needs of those men and women, both military and civilian, once they are employed.

Human resources in the Department of Defense consist of active duty military, members of the reserve components, and civilians. Defense human resource management is concerned with the efficient utilization and mutual support of these three groups. The Department of Defense Human Goals Charter is the philosophic base for this management equation.

Originally promulgated on August 18, 1969, by then Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird, the DoD Human Goals Charter was perceived as a key statement on the objectives and principles governing the Department's treatment of people. Each succeeding Secretary of Defense, Deputy Secretary of Defense, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Secretary of each Military Department, and Chief of Staff of each military service has subscribed to this policy.

On March 21, 1988, a new Human Goals Charter was issued (see page 220).

People are a vital element of our readiness program and civilians are a significant factor in our people programs. DoD employs almost 1 million civilians who perform a broad range of jobs from research and development, medical care, procure-

ment, and supply to base operations, logistical support, and administration. It is DoD policy to minimize our requirements for uniformed personnel by employing civilians in jobs which are not needed for deployment or military rotation. These jobs are essential in meeting our peacetime and wartime national defense mission.

To ensure that DoD draws fully from the capabilities of our population, its civilian workforce should be reflective of the population which it serves; for we are a diverse, multi-talented people. America has historically welcomed "the huddled masses yearning to breathe free." It has become a part of our national identity. We have perceived ourselves as a "melting pot," one in which all nationalities would blend into a new homogeneity. Rather than a "melting pot," however, we are more like a tapestry with yarns of different fibers and colors, interwoven to bring new strength and quality to the national fabric.

How then can we recognize the infinite dignity and worth of individuals yet maintain full effectiveness in the performance of our primary mission—national defense?

Equal Opportunity

One means is through the establishment and maintenance of a comprehensive equal opportunity program which assures that all persons, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, handicapping condition, or age have an opportunity to contribute their skills and to exercise their talents in the accomplishment of our priority mission. Two hundred years ago—before we even had the Constitution—Congress, in 1782, adopted the Great Seal of the United States. The Seal features an eagle holding an olive

branch and the legend, "*E Pluribus Unum*." One among many. That slogan has numerous meanings today; not just one country made up of many states, but one great freedom made up of many freedoms; or one people made up of different ethnicities.

"*E Pluribus Unum*." Given the diversity of our national population, however, it is reasonable to assume that no single program or approach will be successful in tapping the full range of talents available. What has been developed over the years, therefore, is a set of mutually supportive programs, which we generically refer to as equal opportunity. Before reviewing the status of equal employment programs and Hispanics in DoD, there are two key concepts which should be briefly reviewed. The first is "equal opportunity" (EO). Equal opportunity is the objective. It means a bias free environment from social and personal prejudices and free from institutional barriers. It means an atmosphere in which all persons can exercise fully their talents, compete with others based solely upon relevant skills, and advance through their own merit, unencumbered by the shackles of any form of discrimination.

The second concept is "affirmative action." Affirmative action is a tool, a means to achieve equal opportunity. It means the positive steps taken to identify and eliminate social or institutional barriers to EO. It also means the positive actions taken to remove or overcome the present effects of previous discrimination.

Succinctly put then, "equal opportunity" is the condition and "affirmative action" is a means by which that condition is achieved.



Department of Defense HUMAN GOALS

Our nation was founded on the principle that the individual has infinite dignity and worth. The Department of Defense, which exists to keep the Nation secure and at peace, must always be guided by this principle. In all that we do, we must show respect for the serviceman, the servicewoman, the civilian employee, and family members, recognizing their individual needs, aspirations and capabilities.

The defense of the Nation requires a well-trained volunteer force, military and civilian, regular and reserve. To provide such a force, we must increase the attractiveness of a career in the Department of Defense so that service members and civilian employees will feel the highest pride in themselves, their work, their organization, and their profession.

THE ATTAINMENT OF THESE GOALS REQUIRES THAT WE STRIVE

To attract to the Department of Defense people with ability, dedication, and capacity for growth;

To provide opportunity for everyone, military and civilian, to rise to as high a level of responsibility as possible, dependent only on individual talent and diligence;

To assure that equal opportunity and safety programs are an integral part of readiness;

To make military and civilian service in the Department of Defense a model of equal opportunity for all regardless of race, color, sex, religion, or national origin;

To provide equity in civilian employment for older persons and disabled individuals and to provide a safe environment that is accessible to and usable by them;

To hold those who do business with or receive assistance from the Department to full compliance with its policies of equal opportunity and safety;

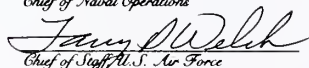
To help each service member in leaving the service to readjust to civilian life;

To provide a safe and healthful work environment, free from recognized occupational hazards, for all personnel; and

To contribute to the improvement of our society, including its disadvantaged members, by greater utilization of our human and physical resources while maintaining full effectiveness in the performance of our primary mission.

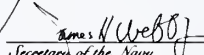

Chief of Staff, U.S. Army

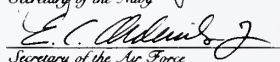

Chief of Naval Operations

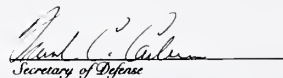

Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force

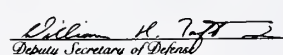

Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps

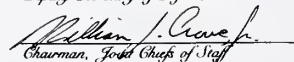

Secretary of the Army


Secretary of the Navy


Secretary of the Air Force


Secretary of Defense


Deputy Secretary of Defense


Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

March 21, 1988

Department of Defense Human Goals Charter



THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

9 MAR 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
GENERAL COUNSEL
INSPECTOR GENERAL
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING
DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION
ASSISTANTS TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, PROGRAM ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
PRESIDENT, UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY OF
THE HEALTH SCIENCES
DIRECTOR, OCHAMPUS
COMMANDER, ARMY AND AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE

SUBJECT: Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) for Civilians within
the Department of Defense

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) has the responsibility to issue instructions to Federal agencies for development of affirmative action program plans. Recently, EEOC issued new instructions for Fiscal Year 1988 through 1992. Additionally, the Chairman of EEOC has asked that I give implementation of these documents my personal attention.

The responsibility for carrying out a successful affirmative action effort, under EEOC guidance, rests with each of us. We should all make every effort to increase the representation of qualified minorities, women, and persons with disabilities in our work force. Accordingly, I ask your help in managing and improving our efforts by taking the following actions:

- o Ensure full and prompt implementation of the new affirmative action instructions for minorities, women, and persons with disabilities (EEO-MD-713 and EEO-MD-714).

- o Ensure full implementation of DoD Directive 1440.1, "The DoD Civilian Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Program," including establishment of special emphasis programs for minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

- o Ensure adequate personnel resources for EEO programs, and fill authorized positions with fully trained and qualified personnel.

- o Ensure impartial investigation of complaints of discrimination, including sexual harassment, in a timely and equitable manner.

- o Ensure accuracy and timeliness in submitting annual reports on employment discrimination complaints to EEOC.

- o Ensure implementation of realistic long-term and short-term plans to achieve the DoD-wide goal of 2.0 percent representation of persons with targeted disabilities by 1992.

- o Ensure full compliance with annual and other requirements under DoD Directives prohibiting discrimination in programs assisted by the Department of Defense.

Finally, all officials to whom responsibility is delegated for implementation of your equal employment opportunity and affirmative action programs must have their efforts in that connection included in their performance evaluations along with other criteria. Critical elements for members of the Senior Executive Service (SES) and Performance Management and Recognition System (PMRS), where appropriate, should include specific EEO performance standards. In addition, we must increase the number of qualified minorities, women, and persons with disabilities in the SES and SES candidate pools.

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management and Personnel) will coordinate DoD efforts under this memorandum. Please submit copies of your implementing guidance within 30 days. I look forward to your full cooperation in achieving a qualified civilian work force that is reflective of the Nation's diversity.



Hispanic Civilians In DoD

The data in Table 1 below show the participation of Hispanic Americans in the DoD civilian workforce for the period 1972–1988. The actual number of Hispanics, as well as the Hispanic participation rate, have gradually increased each year.

A similar pattern emerges when the DoD civilian workforce is divided into General Schedule (white collar executive, administrative, professional, technical, and clerical positions) and Wage Systems (blue collar skilled trades, operatives, laborers, and service workers). The figures in Table 2 and 3 show the participation of Hispanic Americans in both categories of employment for the period 1972–1988.

In order to emphasize the need to recruit, hire, and promote Hispanic Americans, DoD institutionalized in DoD Directive 1440.1 the DoD Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Program. The Directive established a DoD Hispanic Employment Program Board. The Board serves as an advisory to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Civilian Personnel Policy).

TABLE 1
DoD—All Pay Systems

Year	Total Hispanic	%	Hispanic Male %	Hispanic Female %
1972	38,817	4.2	3.5	0.7
1973	38,354	4.3	3.6	0.8
1974	39,898	4.3	3.6	0.7
1975	38,978	4.3	3.6	0.8
1976	39,106	4.5	3.6	0.8
1977	40,260	4.5	3.7	0.9
1978	39,795	4.6	3.7	0.9
1979	40,180	4.8	3.8	1.0
1980	42,088	5.0	4.0	1.0
1981	43,963	5.2	3.9	1.2
1982	43,705	5.1	3.8	1.3
1983	46,629	5.3	4.0	1.3
1984	47,689	5.3	3.9	1.4
1985	48,948	5.3	3.9	1.5
1986	49,962	5.5	3.9	1.6
1987	49,207	5.3	3.8	1.6
1988	49,375	5.5	3.8	1.7

TABLE 2
DoD—General Schedule

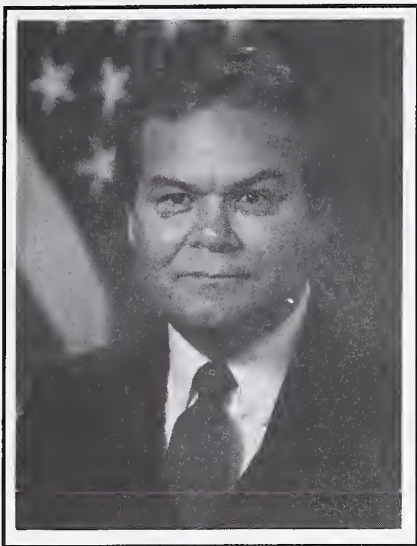
Year	Total Hispanic	%	Hispanic Male %	Hispanic Female %
1972	14,680	2.5	1.5	1.0
1973	14,629	2.7	1.6	1.1
1974	15,412	2.7	1.6	1.1
1975	15,697	2.8	1.7	1.1
1976	16,625	3.0	1.8	1.2
1977	17,312	3.1	1.9	1.2
1978	18,015	3.2	2.0	1.3
1979	18,807	3.4	2.0	1.4
1980	19,614	3.6	2.1	1.5
1981	21,869	3.8	2.2	1.6
1982	22,436	4.1	2.3	1.8
1983	23,889	4.1	2.3	1.8
1984	25,176	4.2	2.3	1.9
1985	26,834	4.3	2.3	2.0
1986	28,039	4.4	2.4	2.0
1987	27,830	4.3	2.3	2.0
1988	28,498	4.5	2.3	2.1

TABLE 3
DoD—Wage Systems

Year	Total Hispanic	%	Hispanic Male %	Hispanic Female %
1972	24,173	6.8	6.6	0.2
1973	23,722	7.0	6.8	0.2
1974	24,486	6.9	6.7	0.2
1975	23,274	7.7	7.5	0.3
1976	22,481	7.2	6.9	0.2
1977	22,948	7.0	6.8	0.2
1978	21,780	7.3	7.0	0.3
1979	21,373	7.4	7.1	0.3
1980	22,474	7.6	7.3	0.3
1981	22,094	7.8	7.4	0.3
1982	21,269	7.6	7.3	0.4
1983	22,740	7.7	7.2	0.4
1984	22,513	7.7	7.3	0.4
1985	22,114	7.7	7.2	0.5
1986	21,923	7.8	7.3	0.5
1987	21,377	7.7	7.2	0.5
1988	20,877	7.8	7.3	0.5

Hispanic American Role Models In Selected Civilian Careers

Hispanic Americans are serving in various roles, from policy-making jobs to equipment repair. The following pages present a selection of Hispanic-American role models in civilian careers in DoD.



Manuel Oliverez

Mr. Oliverez was born in Colorado City, Texas, to Puerto Rican and Mexican parents. As members of a migrant farm worker family, Mr. Oliverez and 14 siblings saw much of the west as they followed the crops in the Pacific Coast migrant stream (Arizona, California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana).

The five eldest children, including Mr. Oliverez, who is the oldest, left school after the 8th grade. However, because their parents stressed education, many years later, each returned to school and took college courses.

Mr. Oliverez served three proud years in the U. S. Marine Corps. The Corps taught him to believe in himself, to lead, and to persevere. After the Corps, he attended Hartnell Junior College in Salinas, California and took one year of remedial courses because he had not attended high school. He received an AA degree, a BA degree, secondary teaching credentials, and an M.Ed. in Educational Administration.

After college, Mr. Oliverez taught history, reading, civics, and Spanish in junior high school. He left teaching to become executive director for the Monterey County Anti-Poverty Council, which he organized. Mr. Oliverez then went to San Francisco, California, to work for the San Francisco Economic Opportunity Office, where he developed and funded job training programs for the city. He later became director of the San Hidalgo Institute, a vocational training school in Oakland, California.

In 1969, Oliverez left San Hidalgo Institute to take a position on President Nixon's "President's Cabinet Committee On the Spanish-Speaking People." During his five-year tenure on this committee, he held the positions of Assistant Executive Director for Manpower; Assistant Executive Director for Manpower and Economic Development; Assistant Executive Director for Manpower and Education; and the Ex-

ecutive Director for Program Operation. Mr. Oliverez left the Cabinet Committee to become Chief of Equal Employment Opportunity at the U.S. Air Force Headquarters. While there, he developed the first 5-year Affirmative Employment Plan which was approved by the United States Civil Service Commission.

Mr. Oliverez was commended by the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Air Force for innovative program leadership. After leaving the Air Force, Oliverez joined the Office of the Secretary of Defense as the DoD Hispanic Employment Program Manager.

In 1987, he was elected President of National Image, Inc., a Hispanic organization concerned with the employment, education, and civil rights of Hispanic Americans. Mr. Oliverez ran for a second term as President of National Image, Inc. on May 27, 1989, and was re-elected by acclamation. National Image works closely with the Department of Defense. The objectives of National Image in pursuing the recruitment, hiring, promoting, training, career development, and retention of Hispanics in the Federal Civil Service workforce are very compatible. Both programs pursue the same objective—to provide opportunity to Hispanic Americans.

Dr. Hector O. Nevarez
Director, Dependents Support Policy
Force Management and Personnel
(Family Support, Education, and
Safety)

Dr. Hector O. Nevarez was born in Crystal City, Texas. He attended the University of Texas in Austin, Texas, receiving his BS degree in history. He taught history and English in a public high school in Texas for 7 years. In 1966, he joined the Department of Defense at the Defense Language Institute (DLI) at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, as an English language instructor. Dr. Nevarez remained at DLI for 13 years. During this time he received a master's degree in Linguistics from the University of Texas in San Antonio.

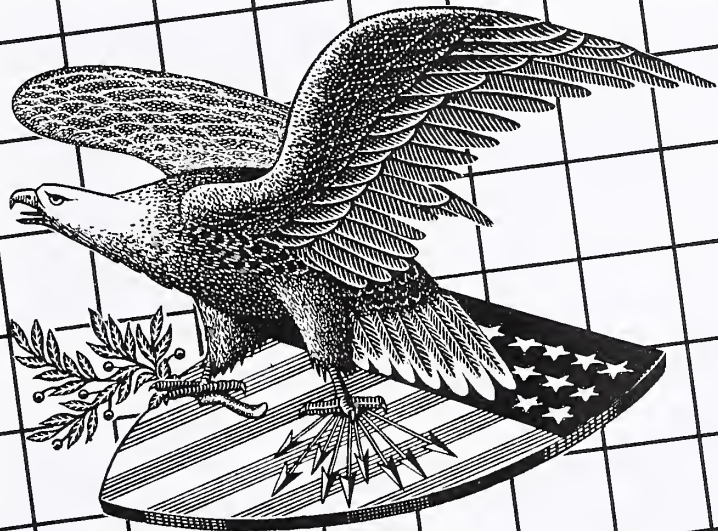
Since coming to the Washington, D.C. area, Dr. Nevarez has worked with the Department of Defense Dependents Schools and the Training and Education Directorate, Force Management and Personnel (Military Installations and Logistics), as Assistant to the Director for the Department of Defense Section 6 Schools. He became director of the Dependents Support Policy Office in 1986. Dr. Nevarez obtained his Ph.D. in Education Administration from American University in Washington, D.C., in May 1987.



Dr. Nevarez is married to the former Maria G. Lopez. They have five children and one grandchild.

Hispanic Americans Within the Department of Defense

Members of the Senior Executive Service
of the United States of America





Anthony Gamboa

Deputy General Counsel (Acquisition),
Department of Army



Dr. Richard B. Gomez

Physical Scientist (Atmospheric Science)
U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Office of the
Chief of Engineers



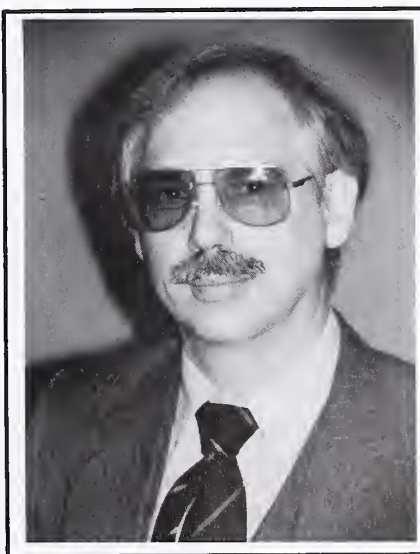
Gibson George LeBoeuf

Branch Engineer, Ship Installation & Design
Branch, Strategies Systems Project Office,
Department of Navy



Joseph Maldonado

Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Contract
Audit Follow-up (OIGDoD)



John P. Mendez

Deputy Director, Transition Management Direc-
torate, Defense Mapping Agency



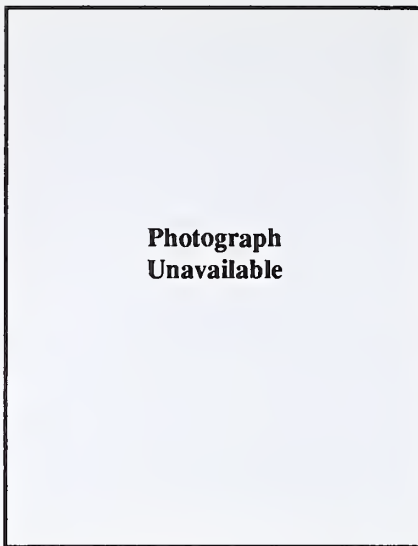
Dr. Florabelle G. Mullick

Associate Director, Center for Advanced Pathol-
ogy, Armed Forces Institute of Pathology



Anthony J. Pansza

Assistant to the Commander, Logistics Operations Center, Air Force Logistics Command



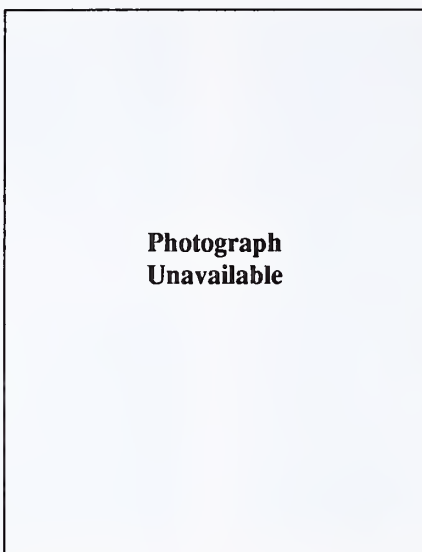
Edward Rlojas, Jr.

Deputy Director, Material Management, Sacramento Air Logistics Center



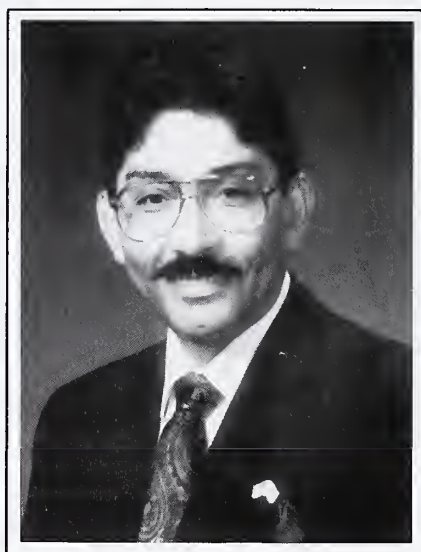
Richard Rojas

Associate Director of Research and Director of Oceanology, Naval Research Laboratory



James M. Romero

Deputy Director, Air Force Space Technology Center, Air Force Systems Command



Joel M. Valenzuela

Regional Director, Central Region, Defense Contract Audit Agency

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